THE TIMES

30p

No. 65,441 MONDAY DECEMBER 4 1995



THE BEST FOR SPORT - on 12 pages

Cricket: Defiant Atherton fights back
Football: Newcastle wobble at Wimbledon - plus reports on every premiership match.
All the weekend action: SECTION 2



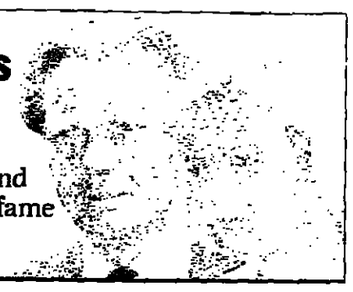
Le Shuttle offer

France for £29 - plus 33% off duty-frees
PAGE 34



Daddy's girls

Talented, flirtatious and hungry for fame
PAGE 17



Major and Queen to discuss future amid fear of controversy abroad

Princess faces opposition to role as envoy

BY PHILIP WEBSTER AND LIN JENKINS

MINISTERS and Buckingham Palace officials are seeking to limit any formal ambassadorial role for the Princess of Wales amid fears that she could find herself embroiled in political controversy overseas.

John Major and the Queen are expected to continue discussions about the Princess's future at the Prime Minister's weekly audience tomorrow. This follows her visit to the Palace last week, when she is reported to have outlined the job she wishes to pursue for Britain overseas.

In the same week, she also gave a brief interview to the *News of the World*, explaining why she makes regular late night visits to comfort the sick and dying in hospital. She told the newspaper: "It is something I love doing."

Ministers concerned about a role for her abroad, believe it would be unfair to place her in a position where she was expected to speak for Britain on politically sensitive issues. "We could not trust her with a brief," a senior minister said.

The Princess took her proposals to the Palace for a lengthy session with Sir Robert Fellowes, the Queen's private secretary, after returning from her four-day visit to Argentina.

But ministers said yesterday that while the Government was happy to see a wider role for the Princess — reflecting her deep popularity in the country — they were against the idea of a formal ambassadorial role.

A government source said that Malcolm Rifkind, the Foreign Secretary, and Douglas Hurd, his predecessor, admired the Princess for the professional and competent manner in which she conducted her overseas visits. But he doubted whether this should be turned into a structured envoy role.

A senior minister said the Princess should have a position similar to that of the Princess Royal, who has been praised for her charity work overseas, particularly as president of Save the Children. "The monarchy plays a very important part in representing Britain and she does it well. We are happy to see her in the Royal Britannia role — but we are not looking for her to become a David Owen type figure," one minister said.

Suggestions that ministers are jealous of the attention the Princess has received overseas are dismissed as "rubbish" by senior government sources. But ministers were privately nervous over her visit to Argentina, fearing that it might present Britain as too conciliatory towards the Menem Government. In the event, the trip went off without a hitch.

The talks between the Princess and the Palace, which were initiated by senior royal aides after her *Panorama* interview, were said to have been amicable, but no conclusions are expected to be reached for some time.

The discussions came as a poll showed that seven out of ten people supported her wish to become "queen of hearts".

The Prince of Wales is not involved in the meetings about his wife's future. However, as the debate continued, he appeared to be giving public support to his close friend, Nicholas Soames, the Armed Forces Minister, who condemned the Princess as "paranoid" after her interview.

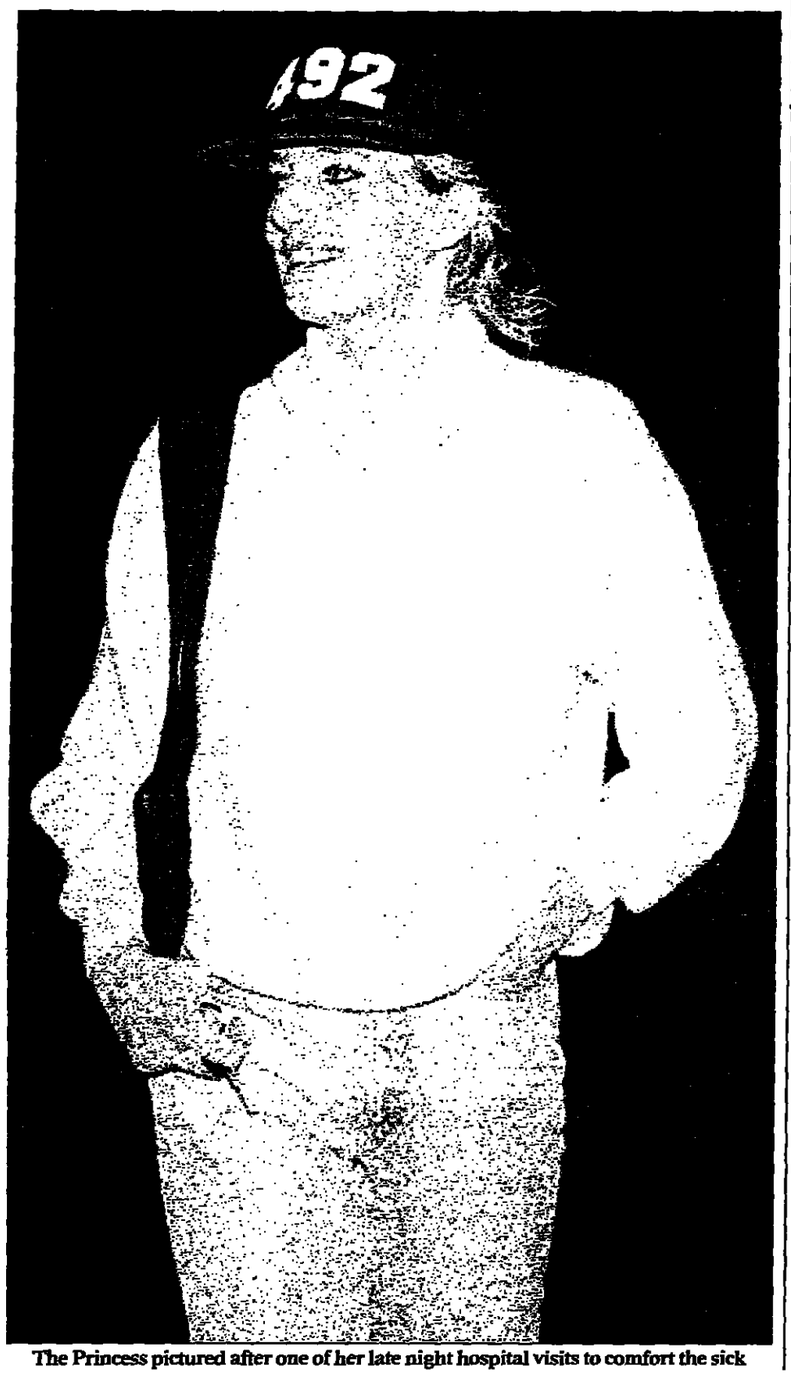
Mr Soames, who was silenced by the Prime Minister after his outburst, spent the weekend at Sandringham, where he was seen walking and in deep discussion with the Prince.

Senior members of the royal household are keen to offer guidance to the Princess and to avoid becoming embroiled in any vindictive exchange which might drive her further in the direction of running her own show.

However, their first problem is to sort out who will become her new press adviser after the resignation of Geoffrey Crawford, the Queen's deputy press secretary, when he was not informed of her decision to give the *Panorama* interview.

A survey for *The Sunday Times* showed that since her *Panorama* interview, the Princess had attracted more public sympathy. Two weeks ago only 27 per cent of people had sympathy for her, but the figure has risen to 39 per cent. The Prince of Wales's sympathy rating has dropped from 10 per cent to 8 per cent.

Visits to dying, page 3



The Princess pictured after one of her late night hospital visits to comfort the sick

Clarke leads campaign to preserve welfare state

BY PHILIP WEBSTER POLITICAL EDITOR

A FIERCE internal battle over the Conservative election manifesto was signalled yesterday amid indications that Kenneth Clarke will spearhead a campaign to prevent any further moves to the right over Europe and the welfare state.

With Conservative MPs beginning to break ranks over the apparent failure of the Budget to improve their fortunes, senior ministers mounted a concerted campaign in defence of Mr Clarke and the Budget, with Michael Heseltine calling him a "rock of a Chancellor" who would refuse to panic. At the same time, Mr Clarke shaped up for a struggle with the Right by making plain that he would resist demands for a radical scaling down of the welfare state, stressing that he would put protection of pensions, child benefit and the health service in front of tax cuts.

It has also emerged that Mr Clarke will fight any attempt within the Cabinet to commit the Conservatives in their manifesto against going into a single currency in the lifetime of the next Parliament.

The threat of a fresh Tory split comes as ministers consider fresh plans to cut the £6 billion a year cost of child benefit. Peter Lilley, the Social Security Secretary, is looking at proposals which would reduce the benefit for working mothers on comfortable incomes. Under it child benefit would continue for non-working mothers, but it would be converted into a child tax allowance for the 4.3 million mothers who go to work. Mr Clarke, however, is determined to oppose any radical changes in the system. He told reporters over the weekend: "Any tax and benefit system has got to take account of children."

Defending his Budget decision to increase spending on health and education by £2 billion and to limit to 1p the cut in the basic rate of tax, Mr Clarke said: "I win more votes and I safeguard more votes by putting it into public services."

The Chancellor is also making plain that he will not be forced into big tax cuts in the next Budget. "We won't win the next election if we are perceived to be bribing the electorate."

Mr Heseltine yesterday virtually ruled out a general election until 1997. Speaking on Radio 4's *The World This Weekend*, he said: "We don't see ourselves fighting an election until 1997. We have a strategy for the parliament."

Both Mr Heseltine and Brian Mawhinney, party chairman, insist that the Budget changes and improving economic conditions will leave the average earner £9 a week better off next year. Labour says people would only benefit by that amount if average pay rose by an inflation-beating 4 per cent. "Either the Government was lying or they have a new pay policy of 4 per cent in mind," said John Prescott, Labour's deputy leader. "If there is no such pay policy, then Brian Mawhinney, Michael Heseltine and Kenneth Clarke have to withdraw the £9-a-week figure immediately."

An NOP poll carried out after the Budget and published in *The Sunday Times* yesterday, shows Labour stretching its lead to 32 points. The poll also showed that 71 per cent now distrusted the Tories on taxation.

Peter Riddell, page 18

Tornado loses in dogfights

The RAF's Tornado F3 can be out-performed in air-to-air combat by more than 50 airforces around the world, according to an assessment passed to Michael Portillo, the Defence Secretary.

This evidence will contribute to the debate over whether to upgrade the Tornado F3 or lease American F16s.... Page 2

Forte fights on

Sir Rocco Forte, chairman of the Forte hotels and restaurants group, has appointed Roberto Mendoza to help him to fend off Granada's £3.4 billion takeover bid. Forte has sold its Lillywhites sports stores to a Portuguese retailer for £28.5 million ..... Page 44

Jimmy Jewel dies

Jimmy Jewel, the comic actor from Sheffield whose career spanned music hall, television and straight acting, died on the eve of his 83rd birthday..... Page 3

Buying The Times overseas
Austria Sch 40; Belgium B Frs 80; Canada $3.25; Canaries Pes 325; Cyprus CE1.20; Denmark Dkr 18.00; Finland Fmk 17.00; France F 14.00; Germany DM 4.50; Gibraltar 90p; Greece Dr 450; Netherlands Fl 4.50; Irish Republic 45p; Italy L 4,500; Luxembourg Lf 60; Madeira Esc 350; Malta 45c; Morocco Dir 27.00; Norway Kr 20.00; Portugal con Esc 350; Spain Pts 325; Sweden Skr 18.00; Switzerland S Frs 4.00; Tunisia Din 2.200; USA $3.50.

9 770140 046213 49

French strike spreads as union leaders raise stakes

FROM BEN MACINTYRE IN PARIS

THE most disruptive French strike for a decade will get dramatically worse this week as telephone, electricity, education and health workers join public transport employees to protest against the planned overhaul of the debt-burdened welfare system.

Alain Juppé, the Prime Minister, refused to back down in the face of spreading public sector strikes yesterday, despite fears that the stoppage is undermining the economy.

"The reforms are necessary," Alain Lamassoure, the Prime Minister's spokesman, insisted, after M Juppé called a crisis meeting to discuss the deteriorating situation with cabinet ministers. President Chirac also reaffirmed support for M Juppé's controversial reforms.

Until now unions have demanded only some changes to M Juppé's welfare proposals, which include new taxation and deep spending cuts. Over the weekend, however, the stakes were raised when union leaders called for the entire Juppé plan to be jettisoned.

A crippling 11-day strike by railway staff and other public transport workers shows no signs of ending after talks between unions and the Government collapsed leaving train, undergound and bus services in paralysis. Striking electricity workers have sharply reduced production and power cuts are expected this week.

"A cold spell could have terrible consequences," *Le Journal du Dimanche* warned. Mail services have been badly disrupted as postal workers join the strike in growing numbers and telephone company employees are also expected to stop work from today.

Public sector unions have called on workers in private companies to take part in a general stoppage tomorrow when university students will take to the streets.

A meeting between striking students and François Bayrou, the Education Minister, ended in deadlock yesterday.

Groups representing doctors, airline employees, journalists, prison staff, tax inspectors and police are also calling for strike action. Some 20,000 employees of the Bank of France will strike later this week.

"France is a sort of Vesuvius for Europe. When the lava has to find a way out, Paris is the natural volcano"
William Rees-Mogg, page 18
Reeling economy, page 12

Leading article, page 19

Clinton sends in Bosnia troops

BY OUR FOREIGN STAFF

PRESIDENT CLINTON, shrugging off tough talk by the Bosnian Serb military leader, announced yesterday that he had cleared the dispatch of 700 American troops as part of a 2,500-strong Nato "enabling force".

Mr Clinton attached little importance to the objections of General Ratko Mladic, Bosnian Serb army commander, who said on Saturday that some parts of the American-brokered Bosnia agreement that was reached at Dayton, Ohio, would have to be reworked to prevent his people having to live "under butchers' rule".

During a visit to American troops headed for Bosnia from an army base in southern Germany, Mr Clinton told them: "If you are threatened with attack, you may respond immediately and with decisive force".

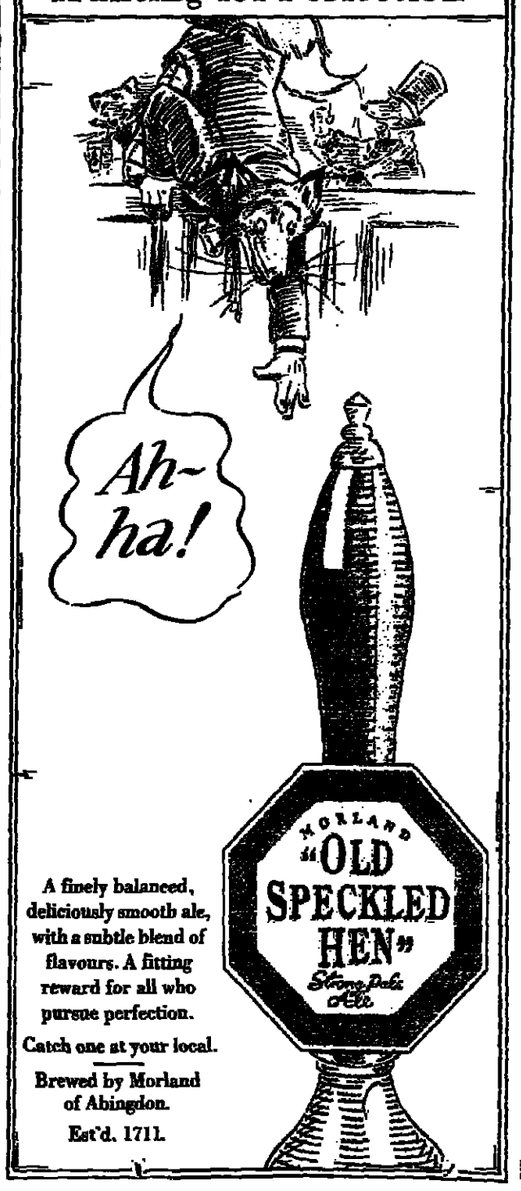
Mr Clinton heaped praise on Javier Solana, the Nato Secretary-General designate, calling him one of Europe's great leaders, and signed a "new transatlantic agenda" in Madrid with Felipe González, the Spanish Prime Minister, whose country holds the EU's rotating presidency, and Jacques Santer, President of the European Commission.

"Our destiny in America is still linked to Europe," Mr Clinton said at the signing. Mr Santer responded: "It is an historic moment for transatlantic relations. We will lead by example."

At a state dinner in Madrid attended by King Juan Carlos, Mr Clinton told guests: "I wish tonight that I could have a conversation with the great Spanish writer Cervantes because I feel as if we are now living in a time when we can tilt at windmills and find victory."

Bosnia bickering, page 12
Transatlantic pact, page 13

Hunting for Perfection~



A finely balanced, deliciously smooth ale, with a subtle blend of flavours. A fitting reward for all who pursue perfection.

Catch one at your local.

Brewed by Morland of Abingdon.

Est'd. 1711.

America hopes to buy two Crown Jewels

BY DALYA ALBERGE

HERITAGE groups are making desperate attempts to block the export to America of two magnificent crowns worn by six British monarchs at coronations and state openings of Parliament. They have been given until January 24 to raise almost £1 million to buy them and return them to the Crown Jewels collection in the Tower of London, where they were held from 1715 until 1838.

The Imperial State Crown of George I and the Coronation Crown of George IV are owned by Asprey Antiques, the Bond Street dealer. There is likely to be widespread dismay that the Government should even contemplate allowing them to leave the country. The attempt to keep the crowns is being led by the Historic Royal Palaces, the government agency which manages the Tower. As it is not officially allowed to buy anything, the most likely solution would be for the Victoria & Albert Museum to purchase them and pass them on to the Tower.

"The story of the Crown Jewels cannot seriously be told without these two crowns," Richard Edgcumbe, a V & A curator, said. "They were central to the most important ceremonies of British constitutional government."

The National Art Collections Fund has pledged £30,000, but unless all the money can be raised, the crowns seem certain to go to America.

Sale mystery, page 3

TV & RADIO 42, 43	LETTERS 19	ARTS 14, 15	SPORT 23-34
WEATHER 22	OBITUARIES 21	CHESS & BRIDGE 34	MIND & MATTER 16
CROSSWORDS 22, 44	WILLIAM REES-MOGG 18	COURT & SOCIAL 20	LAW REPORT 35

THIS WEEK IN THE TIMES

TUESDAY

PLAY TO WIN £50,000

See how your Interactive Team players are performing

PLUS: Libby Purves and Nigella Lawson

THE TIMES ITF INTERACTIVE TEAM FOOTBALL

WEDNESDAY

ESSENTIAL FASHION

Christmas must-haves from the high street

PLUS:

In Interface, £4,000 of CD-Roms to be won

THURSDAY

FILMS OF THE WEEK

Michael Douglas in *The American President*, and other new releases

PLUS: John Bryant on sport, and the Appointments section

FRIDAY

POP

Caitlin Moran on modern music and musicians

PLUS:

Bernard Levin, Valerie Grove and Education

SATURDAY

MAKE A DOG'S DAY

The pet-owner's guide to acceptable presents, in Weekend

PLUS: The Magazine, Car 95, Weekend Money, 1015, for young Times readers and Vision, the 7-day TV and radio guide

EVERY DAY THIS WEEK: A HOLIDAY FOR TWO TO BE WON

Loyalists reject Trimble's farewell to arms

By Nicholas Watt and Philip Webster

LOYALISTS accused David Trimble, the leader of the Ulster Unionists, of trying to manipulate Protestant paramilitaries last night as they rejected his appeal to disarm before the IRA.

The Ulster Democratic Party and the Progressive Unionist Party, which have links to loyalist terrorists, said there was "no question" of any decommissioning by loyalists while the IRA remained armed.

The move came as the Government played down suggestions that it was weakening the so-called Washington 3 demand, which requires the IRA to start giving up weapons before being admitted to all-party talks. However, senior sources reiterated that if other ways could be found of building confidence among Unionists they would be looked at. A number of weekend reports suggested that a new formula under which arms would be decomissioned in parallel with all-party talks rather than before them was under consideration.

But British ministers insisted that Washington 3 stood because the Unionists had made clear that without it there would be no guarantee of he commitment to non-violent means. While the Government did not hold to Washington 3 "by dogma" it would insist on it unless the Unionists were satisfied by other gestures, possibly by Sinn Fein taking part in a new elected assembly in Northern Ireland. The loyalist backlash came after Mr Trimble confirmed yesterday that he had called on loyalist paramilitaries to put pressure on the IRA by decommissioning some of its arms. He told BBC's *Breakfast with Frost*: "If only the loyalist paramilitaries would move, then that would deprive the IRA of any scintilla of justification for holding on to their weapons."

Mr Trimble was speaking after *The Observer* reported that he had called on one of his Belfast city councillors to talk to an intermediary on the question of loyalist arms hours before last Tuesday's late night Anglo-Irish summit. Mr Trimble's intervention drew a furious response from Gary McMichael, leader of the Ulster Democratic Party, which has links to the Ulster Defence Association. The UDP leader said: "His analysis is a non-runner and there is no question of any physical gesture on decommissioning ahead of the IRA — not while the Provisionals remain fully operational."

Mr McMichael said that Mr Trimble's proposals were discussed, but discounted immediately. He added: "It was seen as an attempt to try and manipulate the paramilitary organisations. They have had enough bitter experiences of that in the past and they were not prepared to fall into another trap." David Ervine, of the Progressive Unionists, which has links to the Ulster Volunteer Force, echoed Mr McMichael's comments when he accused Mr Trimble of playing games. He added: "I can't fully understand what these games are other than the suggestion might be that to apply pressure on the IRA is a good idea. The notion that someone might pressurise them is a nonsense."

The arms issue led to clashes on *Breakfast with Frost* between Mr Trimble and John Hume, the leader of the SDLP, on the eve of their first formal talks since Mr Trimble's election as leader of the Ulster Unionists in September. Mr Hume said that Sinn Fein should be invited to all party talks on the strength of the IRA ceasefire while Mr Trimble insisted that the IRA must decommission some of its arms before all party talks can begin.

Government's hard line will please Tory Euro-sceptics

Britain opposes extension of EU majority voting

By Charles Bremner and Philip Webster

BRITAIN will find itself at odds with its Brussels partners again tomorrow when the Government announces its outright opposition to any further extension of majority voting in the European Union.

The hard line, which will please Tory Euro-sceptics, will become clear with the publication of the report of the Reflection Group, which has spent the past six months preparing an outline agenda for next year's conference on the future of the union.

After the group, headed by Carlos Westendorp, the Spanish Minister of European Affairs, has published its report in Brussels, David Davis, the Minister for European Affairs and Britain's representative on the group, will explain why he has opposed any further weakening of the veto of individual member states. He is also against an extension of the powers of the European Parliament and the handing over of any powers on law and order and immigration to the union.

The report, obtained by *The Times*, will be discussed by European leaders at their summit in Madrid later this month, but Britain's opposition means that the agenda for next year's conference is already looking threadbare.

The European Commission is dismayed at the group's failure to chart a clear path to deeper integration. Jacques Santer, the Commission President, is hammering together an alternative which will counter the Westendorp effort.

Britain is singled out as the lone dissenter in three main areas of the nine-page final draft, including the extension of majority voting and more powers for the European parliament. But London has a minority of allies in most other fields, notably in its resistance to more common foreign policy and control of immigration and police work.

In striking contrast to the bold rhetoric that marked the Maastricht run-up, the Reflection Group sounds defensive. "For a growing number of Europeans today, the rationale for Community integration is not self-evident," says its preamble. "In Western Europe, there is a growing sense of public disaffection ... We need to explain clearly to our citizens why the union, which is so attractive to others in Europe, remains necessary for us too."

Among the few areas in which Señor Westendorp reports consensus is the aim that the inter-governmental conference "should focus on necessary changes, without embarking on a complete revision of the treaty". No state, in particular, wants to touch the Maastricht provisions for monetary union.

Germany and the federal-minded smaller states are disappointed over the stew of conflicting options listed by Señor Westendorp. French officials are scornful of what one senior diplomat calls a "complete waste of time".

President Chirac and Chancellor Kohl are meeting on Thursday to try to galvanise the proceedings with a bolder Franco-German recipe for the inter-governmental conference. This is expected to include French concessions to qualified majority voting in some fields, though not foreign policy and justice affairs. In a plan to reweight the vote in favour of the big states, Germany would acquire more clout than other members.

TONY WHITE



Sir James Goldsmith being interviewed yesterday. He will stand for a Surrey seat at the election

Goldsmith promises to fight for referendum

By Joanna Bale

POLITICIANS were dismissed as "fifth-rate" by Sir James Goldsmith yesterday as he stepped up his campaign for a referendum on Europe.

The multimillionaire, who funds the Referendum Party, plans to field candidates at the general election in every constituency where the sitting MP refuses to endorse the need for a referendum on the Maastricht treaty.

Some Conservatives fear that his move could affect the outcome of the election, taking votes away from their party in marginal seats.

In an interview for BBC1's *On the Record*, Sir James told the interviewer John Humphrys: "You're very impressed by politicians, I'm not. I think they're fifth-rate, the bunch of them." His candidates would be "normal and ordinary people".

Sir James, 62, a French MEP, intends to fight a Surrey constituency in the election. He denied that his proposal to field hundreds of candidates was a bluff. "I have never bluffed. We will go through to the end, come what may. This is the single most important battle one can possibly have."

He said that denying people the right to a referendum on Maastricht was tantamount to treason. "It was forced through because there was no alternative, people had no right to vote for or against. They either had to vote for the Labour Party or for the Conservative, both of which were peddling Maastricht." He denied that the referendum on entry to the European Community made the nation's agreement with Maastricht implicit.

"The referendum took place about the Treaty of Rome, about staying in Europe on the basis of no loss of sovereignty," Sir James said.

Maastricht had stripped Britain of that sovereignty, he said. "British law as passed by Parliament is no longer supreme: it is thousands of regulations and directives passed in Brussels, in secret, by unelected bureaucrats who are now dominant, supreme in this country."

He denied that his move would damage the cause of many Euro-sceptic MPs. "It is not destructive at all."

Third-world planes can outgun ageing Tornado

By Michael Evans
Defence Correspondent

THE RAF's frontline "dogfight" aircraft, the Tornado F3, can be outperformed by more than 50 airforces around the world, according to a detailed assessment passed to Michael Portillo, the Defence Secretary.

The countries with aircraft which could outperform the Tornado in combat include Algeria, Libya, North Korea, Pakistan and Serbia, which has Russian-built MiG29s. The evidence that the RAF is now falling dramatically down the performance league table is being considered as part of the debate over whether to upgrade the Tornado F3 or to lease F16s from the United States.

Many of the countries overtaking Britain are Third World nations that have acquired top-rank Russian fighters. The aircraft capable of defeating the Tornado F3 have been listed as the MiG29 and Su27, the French Mirage 2000, the Swedish Gripen and the American F16, F18, F15 and F14. Non-Nato countries which are either equipped with Tornado-beating fighters or have superior air defence aircraft on order also include Azerbaijan, Bulgaria, China, Cuba, Iran, Kazakstan, Moldova, Russia, Syria, Ukraine and Uzbekistan.

The debate inside the Ministry of Defence is one of the most heated for years. Mr Portillo is due to announce his decision later this month.

He has made it clear that he has three options: to upgrade the F3 with new missile systems, to scrap the Tornado and lease F16s to fill the gap before the multi-role Eurofighter comes into service next century, or to carry on with the F3 as it is without spending £115 million on upgrading it.

RAF sources said they feared that Mr Portillo might take the "do nothing" option. However, the Defence Secretary knows this would mean taking a huge gamble.

One defence source said: "Britain won't be able to go to war with an air-defence aircraft that is outclassed by so many rival fighters."

To enable the RAF's Tornado F3 to compete with or outclass these countries' airforces, it needs to be fitted with the Amraam weapon system — an advanced medium-range air-to-air missile. Some of Mr Portillo's advisers have insisted that this would be a waste of money and have recommended that he lease F16s. However, RAF chiefs claim the F16 option would be more expensive

Prescott looks for votes in Australia

John Prescott has launched a campaign to win votes in Australia. The Labour deputy leader has reached an agreement with Kim Beazley, Australia's Deputy Prime Minister, who is to set up a unit to encourage Britons living in Australia to vote in British elections.

More than 700,000 Australian residents are eligible to register to vote in British elections and Labour believes the country offers a natural base for support, having elected five successive Labor governments. The Labour Party, keen to learn from the electoral successes of its Australian counterpart, and anxious to counter the Conservatives' success in attracting the overseas vote, is to set up party branches in Sydney and Perth.

Language pledge

A Labour government would extend the national curriculum to make foreign language learning compulsory for all children from the age of seven. The plan, to be announced tomorrow, comes as the Association of Language Learning said foreign languages began at primary school level in almost every other European country.

Cheap flights off

The first British travel company to offer cut-price round trips between South Africa and Britain has been ordered to close its Johannesburg sales centre and refund more than 400 passengers who had planned to visit Britain. Bluebird Express has been told that its licence does not allow it to start return journeys from South Africa.

TUC legal plan

Trades unions should be able to seek legal aid funds so they can help workers to obtain "fair, fast and effective" settlements in disputes with employers, the TUC says today. In *Justice for Working People* the TUC calls for an overhaul of the legal system to improve access to justice and for a free legal advice service network.

Mortgage scam

Millions of homeowners are paying interest on mortgage debt they have already repaid because lenders have not upgraded their computer systems. Britain's biggest lenders admitted yesterday that customers were paying interest charges based on the size of their loan at the start of the year, even though the debt was being reduced monthly.

Apes in danger

Africa's great apes face extinction as timber companies destroy their natural habitat and workers kill them for food, according to conservationists. The World Society for the Protection of Animals says timber workers are so short of food that they are forced to rely on meat from illegally slaughtered chimps and gorillas.

WE DIDN'T KNOW WHAT YOU WANTED THIS CHRISTMAS SO HERE'S A £50 VOUCHER.

Ryman £50 GIFT VOUCHER

When you buy these or other selected mobile phones we'll give you a FREE £50 GIFT VOUCHER** to spend on a wide range of gifts available in-store.

FREE CONNECTION to any Cellnet tariff.

FREE CALLS† Up to £50 free calls on digital tariffs. Up to £20 free calls on 'Talk & Save' and 'Occasional Caller' analogue tariffs.

Cellnet

FREEPHONE 0800 663300



NOKIA 232 ANALOGUE £49.99*

MOTOROLA 7500 DIGITAL £9.99*

MOTOROLA DUO ANALOGUE £9.99*

N·A·G at Ryman

*Offer subject to availability and dependent on signing an air-time agreement, acceptance of which is subject to status. **Vouchers redeemable at any Ryman store. †On selected tariffs. Ask for claim leaflet in-store.

A CHRISTMAS MESSAGE

May your hearts be glad
And your lives enriched
By the love you gave
Our gravely ill guests.

SISTER SUPERIOR

ST. JOSEPH'S HOSPICE
MARE STREET, HACKNEY, LONDON E8 4SA

هكذا من الأصل

Glories of Georgian coronations fell into private ownership

Foreign buyers eye historic crowns

***Dalya Alberge** finds a mysterious 40-year gap in the story of royal emblems whose rightful home is the Tower*


SIMON WALKER

Alison Cole of the National Art Collections Fund with the Coronation Crown of George IV, left, and the Imperial State Crown of George I. The former is 36cm (14.2in) tall, made of gold and silver and valued at £376,000. George IV insisted on a specially commissioned crown for the most lavish of Coronations.

AS A battle royal began yesterday to keep two historic crowns in Britain, there was bewilderment over why they had not been kept safe in the Tower of London.

The Imperial State Crown of George I is valued at £576,000 and the Coronation Crown of George IV at £376,000. But their importance to the national heritage is almost priceless. The state crown, thought to date from 1715, was adapted for the coronations of George II and William IV and as the state crown of George III and George IV. State crowns were used at the opening of Parliament and Victoria is believed to have used George I's regalia in the first year of her reign.

Asprey Antiques has acquired the crowns from a private collection and has made applications for their export. Charles Truman, a director, said: "I cannot think of anything more central to our heritage than the crowns of England. Our principal concern is that they should remain in this country, but as a commercial organisation we have a duty to our shareholders and owners."

Mr Turman said that the crowns appear to have been held until 1838 by the royal goldsmiths, Rundell, Bridge and Rundell. "When they closed down in the early 1840s, it seems that the crowns were quietly disposed of, for reasons one can only guess at now."

There was a 40-year gap in which their whereabouts were unknown. In 1887 they were acquired by Lord Amherst of Hackney, a bibliophile. A correspondent of *The World* who visited his library expressed amazement at seeing there the crowns which "everyone else innocently believed to be safe in the Tower of London".

From 1935 to 1985 they were on loan to Kensington Palace and the Museum of London. Mr Truman said that his firm had bought the crowns from a private person in Britain, not the present Lord Amherst. Part of the crowns' importance lay in the fact that they reflected the state of the monarchy in the 18th century, when even the Royal Family had to rent its jewels, he said. Crowns were recycled and adapted for different heads of state. "Until South African diamonds came on line and Indian princes gave them stones, they did not have the riches they have today."

Historic Royal Palaces, the government agency which manages the Tower of London, is anxious to acquire the crowns. As it is not allowed to buy anything, the most likely solution would be for the Victoria and Albert Museum to purchase them and pass them on to the Tower. "The story of the crown jewels cannot seriously be told without these two crowns," Richard Edgcumbe, curator of jewellery at the V&A, said. The National Art Collections Fund, Britain's leading art charity, has pledged £30,000 for their purchase. David Barrie, its director, said: "We hope that our contribution and the weight of our support for the crowns will help them to find a permanent home in Britain." Until the reign of George III, the State Crown of George I was displayed with the other Crown Jewels in the Tower of London when not in use. The only crown that is more significant, according to the V&A, is the 1661 St Edward's Crown in the Tower, which regained its role as the coronation crown in 1911.

Although the George I crown was carried at George IV's coronation in 1821, the future king insisted on a commissioned coronation crown. He worked closely with the royal goldsmiths on an innovatory design that included arches of oak leaves and acorns and open settings that allowed the diamonds to shine with greater brilliance.

His estranged wife Caroline, the Princess of Wales, missed her husband's big day. She was barred from Westminster Abbey during the ceremony.

A contemporary reported: "The magnificent crown of brilliance that adorned the head of His Majesty reflected a blaze of light and colours perfectly dazzling to behold as the sunbeams fell directly upon it."

The monarch hoped that the Government would buy him a diamond-set crown but efforts to persuade ministers were in vain. The diamonds were hired for three years at a cost of £20,000 because of various delays.

George IV was closely involved in the crown's innovative design. It has arches of oak leaves and acorns, chosen because he wanted something particularly English. It also features fleur-de-lys, although the King was concerned about their association with France.

George I's crown, valued at £576,000, is 19.5cm (7.7in) tall and made of gold, silver and silver-gilt. It is believed to have been made in 1715, after George I's Coronation. It was used at George II's Coronation and at the opening of Parliament throughout his reign. It served as the State Crown throughout George III's reign: a bill in the Royal Household accounts records that it was cleaned and fitted for his head.

It was carried before George IV at the opening of Parliament in 1820, and at his Coronation, though not as the actual coronation crown. Without alteration, it was used at William IV's Coronation, and as his State Crown. It was probably carried before Queen Victoria when she entered Parliament after her accession in 1837. From 1715 to 1838, the V&A says, this was the most important of all crowns.

Princess 'inspired' by visits to the dying

BY LIN JENKINS

THE Princess of Wales has let it be known that she makes regular visits to comfort the sick and dying in hospital. Two or three times a week she sits at the bedsides of patients who are terminally ill and have no friends or relatives to offer support.

The Princess drives herself from Kensington Palace for the incognito night-time visits to two of London's leading hospitals. She arrives dressed in jeans and baseball cap for the sessions.

Details emerged when the Princess spoke to the *News of the World* after being photographed last Wednesday at the end of one of her visits. Clive Goodman, the newspaper's royal editor, called the photographer on his mobile telephone as he was taking pictures of the Princess. She asked to speak to him and asked for the hospitals not to be identified in order that she could continue the work.

She told the newspaper that the visits had been going on for some time. Comforting the ill and dying brought its own reward. "The visits can be inspirational. It is something I love doing."

She said the patients needed someone to talk to. All were strangers to her and while some knew who she was, others did not. She deliberately visited at night after other visitors had left and when she was less likely to be spotted.

"Some will live and some won't live, but they all need to be loved while they're here," she said. She simply held their hands and talked to them. "I try to be there for them. I really love helping. I seem to draw strength from them."

The Royal Brompton Hospital in London, which specialises in the treatment of heart and lung conditions, is believed to be one of those the Princess has visited in private during the past four months. Reporters were gathered outside yesterday and were also at the gates of the Royal Marsden Hospital in Chelsea, which is renowned for its treatment of those suffering from cancer.

Professor Gerald Russell, Emeritus Professor of Psychiatry at Hayes Grove Priory Hospital, Hayes, Kent, and a leading authority on eating disorders such as the bulimia suffered by the Princess, said the wish to help others who are ill could be seen as a sign of someone recovering from their own medical problems.

"When we have a psychological illness we do need to convey our distress through words or behaviour. But compassion doesn't necessarily come with recovery from these illnesses, it depends on the personality of the person themselves."

The visits are seen as part of the Princess's wish, expressed in the *Panorama* interview, to have a clearly defined role and become the "queen of hearts".

One of the stronger critics of that interview, Nicholas Soames, the Armed Forces Minister, spent the weekend at Sandringham with the Prince of Wales.



The Prince and Soames: weekend at Sandringham

Occult gave Newton the fruit of his labours

BY A STAFF REPORTER

ISAAC NEWTON discovered gravity not from watching an apple fall from a tree but during sinister experiments with the occult, a new biography claims.

Michael White, the author, says that Newton's status as president of the Royal Society, and his recognition by succeeding generations as one of the great figures of science and mathematics, concealed a less reputable private life. *In The Last Sorcerer*, to be published next year, Mr White says that Newton was addicted to books about magic, which were secretly imported from the Continent.

In his youth Newton was fascinated by alchemy, a pseudo-science which sought a method of changing base metals into gold and silver, an elixir which would prolong life indefinitely and a universal remedy for all illnesses. Not surprisingly, it was condemned by the churches as superstition and the work of the Devil.

It was during his experiments to discover a "universal force" that Newton noted that certain substances failed to evaporate when heated and must therefore be subject to a force which held them down. Realising that he had indeed made a significant discovery, he concealed the circumstances by inventing the delightful story of the apple in the orchard of the family home at Woolsthorpe Manor, near Grantham, Lincolnshire, Mr White says.

Woman dragged a mile to her death

BY RICHARD DUCE

A LAND ROVER driver knocked down and killed a woman who was walking her dogs, dragging her beneath the vehicle for more than a mile before stopping. Alexia Mitchell, 29, is expected to be interviewed today about the death of Margaret Whieldon, 43, a mother of two, who died near her home in Leek, Staffordshire.

Mrs Mitchell was walking her two dogs in thick fog on Friday night along a lane which has no pavements when she was struck by the Land Rover. Miss Mitchell, also from Leek, is thought to have driven on for about a mile before she stopped and called the police.

A police spokesman said last night: "We have no idea why the driver did not stop and that is a matter for the investigating officer. We can only assume that it was because of panic but we will not know for certain until she has been questioned.

"This was obviously an horrific accident and we will not know at what point Mrs Whieldon died until after a post-mortem examination. We do not yet know how Mrs Whieldon was hit."

Police have appealed for witnesses to the crash, which happened at 10pm. The dogs were not injured. Mrs Whieldon worked as a cleaner at a hospital in Leek.

Her brother-in-law Peter Whieldon, 32, said: "We are devastated that we lost her in such a terrible accident. Her death has ripped the heart out of this family."

Scientists ready for mammoth task in Norfolk

BY JOHN SHAW

THE skull and one tusk of a 10-ton prehistoric elephant which roamed Britain over 500,000 years ago is about to be removed from cliffs in Norfolk. The massive fossil skeleton, the most complete example of its kind in the world, was in danger of being washed out to sea by coastal erosion and winter storms at West Runton near Cromer.

A £40,000 lottery grant was announced in the summer and preparations are in hand for the final stage of the five-year project to be carried out on Friday. The fragile skull and two-metre-long tusk have been swathed in plaster bandages, which will be covered by fibreglass resin and a cage so that the entire remains can be removed in a block by crane.

Dr Tony Stewart, a geologist at the Castle Museum, Norwich, and project director, said yesterday: "It is a long project, but at least we've got most of the skeleton apart from the feet and one or two other bones. It is very exciting. It's is a once-in-a-lifetime thing to excavate something as important as this.

"A whole load of research and conservation has to be done now, not just on the elephant but on all the other fossils from the site, the plants, the molluscs and the beetles." The remains are likely to go on show at the museum in four years' time after research is complete.

The missing bones were probably taken by hyenas feeding on the elephant when it died. The remains were found in an ancient seam of riverbed and forest which now runs along the shore. Walkers sounded the alarm when they saw a pelvis and an ankle bone sticking out of the cliff.

Dr Stewart said the animal was earlier and bigger than the better-known woolly mammoth: "about ten tons in weight, four metres high at the shoulder and about double the size of a modern African elephant".

The West Runton example is believed to be one of only three known and is in better condition than those found in West Germany and Russia.



Jewel: character actor

Comedy legend Jimmy Jewel dies

JIMMY JEWEL, for decades one of the country's best-known comics, died yesterday. Friends said his death came on the eve of his 83rd birthday, and only a dozen years since he was reaching new audiences with the National Theatre.

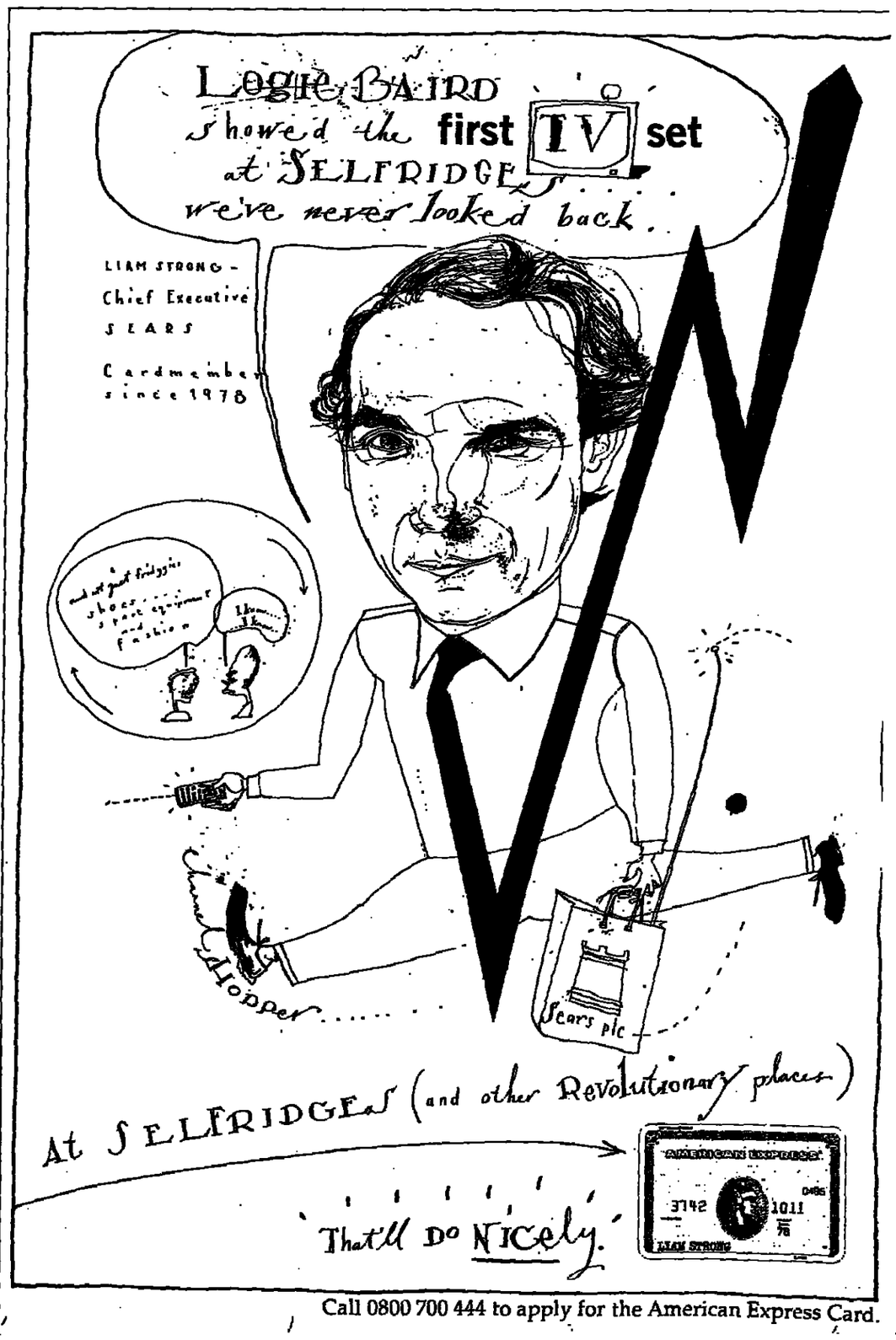
Jewel's career took him from music hall to television stardom and ended with acclaim for his straight acting. He first became nationally known in a double act with his cousin Ben Warriss, appearing on radio and in variety theatres.

After that partnership broke up, he found a second career as character actor. He is remembered by millions of television viewers for his partnership with Hylda Baker in the long-running 1970s series *Nearest and Dearest*.

Jewel, who bore the battered look of a downtrodden bloodhound, was one of a small group of music hall artists who made the successful transition to straight acting and received wide acclaim for his performances in West End plays such as *The Comedians* and *Death of a Salesman*.

Vince Powell, who co-wrote the first series of *Nearest and Dearest*, said Jewel died peacefully in his flat in Kensington, west London. He had not been well for some time. His wife Belle died ten years ago, and his son, Kerry, and adopted daughter live abroad.

Jewel also made cameo appearances in recent television series, including *One Foot in the Grave* and *Casualty*.



Call 0800 700 444 to apply for the American Express Card.



What sort of policy forces these people outside?

The passion to regulate down to the finest details of people's lives can lead to infringements of personal liberty.
With courtesy and consideration, smokers and non-smokers can and do work it out for themselves.

Philip Morris Europe S.A.

17,000 employees in Europe serving Europe's 97 million smokers.

For information on how smokers and non-smokers can accommodate each other, please write to Philip Morris Corporate Affairs Europe, Rue Joseph II, 166-1040 Brussels, Belgium.

هكذا من الأصل

Activists' leader clings to power after acrimonious meeting

No-confidence vote gags director of anti-hunting lobby

BY MICHAEL HORNSBY, COUNTRYSIDE CORRESPONDENT

BRITAIN'S oldest pressure group opposed to blood sports was heading for self-destruction yesterday after failing to resolve internal feuding over the future of its head official, who has angered activists with his views on fox-hunting.

James Barrington, the embattled head of the League Against Cruel Sports, was clinging to office despite a vote of no confidence in him being passed by a narrow majority at an acrimonious meeting of the body's 12-man executive committee on Saturday that lasted eight-and-a-half hours.

Although he remains executive director, Mr Barrington has been told he must no longer talk to the press about his controversial views on fox-hunting — the main cause of the dispute. He declined to comment yesterday.

Howard Hodges, who was elected new chairman of the committee and is a Barrington supporter, said: "The whole issue is to be put to an EGM [extraordinary general meeting] of the league early in January." This was challenged by John Bryant, the league's head of press relations and Mr Barrington's most vociferous opponent. He said: "I doubt that there will be agreement to hold an EGM. In my view such a meeting would be a disaster. It would just be a highly public washing of dirty linen.

"Even if the EGM voted to dismiss Mr Barrington, his supporters could still demand a postal ballot of all the league's 17,000 voting members. I cannot think of a better way of ensuring that the league does nothing about fox-hunting for the next six months. If the committee has no confidence in Mr Barrington he should go now."

Lord Soper, the 92-year-old president of the league, who chaired Saturday's meeting until Mr Hodges had been elected, is strongly in favour of an EGM. "I think this is the only way of getting a fair hearing for all aspects of the dispute," he said.

The committee's failure to remove Mr Barrington will infuriate grassroots activists who have been demanding his resignation since October over remarks he made to *The Field* magazine in which appeared to water down the league's opposition to fox-hunting.

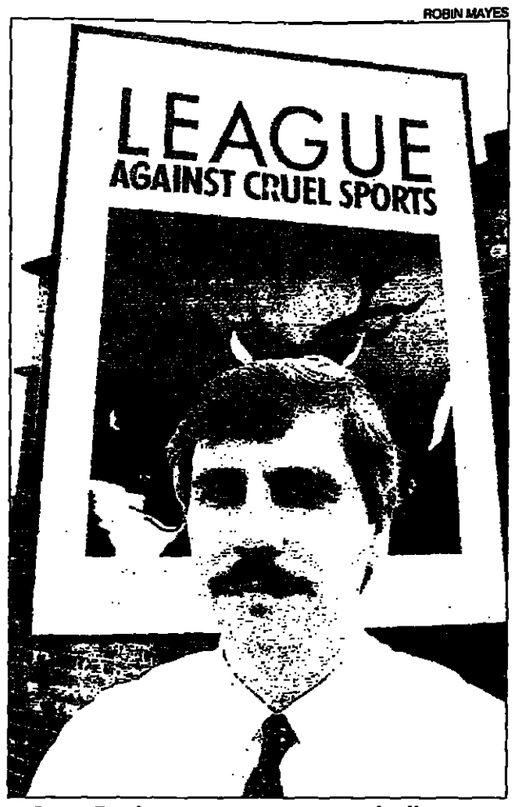
Mr Barrington suggested that if hunts abolished terrier-work — the practice of sending dogs after foxes that have gone to ground — "the league would feel less antagonistic towards hunting and it would have a new lease of life". He compounded his crime by giving an interview to the *Shooting Times* in which he described his opponents as "screaming banshees" and extremists who were trying to stage an undemocratic take-over within the league.

Mr Hodges, formerly treasurer, was appointed on Saturday to replace Ian Blake-Lawson, the previous chairman, who resigned last month after admitting that he had been unable to resolve the dispute over Mr Barrington's future.

Despite his sympathy for Mr Barrington, Mr Hodges was overruled when he argued that Mr Barrington should be allowed to send a reasoned defence of his fox-hunting views to all league members.

The hunting lobby can barely conceal its glee but seems uncertain how best to exploit ructions with the league. Janet George, spokeswoman of the British Field Sports Society, said: "Whatever happens there could be benefits for us. The lunatics have come so close to taking over the asylum, they won't give up now."

ROBIN MAYES



James Barrington's comments angered colleagues

Who's who in dispute at the top

James Barrington: Aged 43. Executive director since 1988. Says the league should discuss something less than a total ban on hunting.

John Bryant: Aged 53. Vegetarian. Joined league in 1971. Now head of press relations. Seen by Barrington as ringleader of "extremists". Wrote a book in early 1980s called *Fettered Kingdoms* arguing that pet-owning was "a form of slavery".

Lord Soper: Aged 92. Lifelong opponent of fox-hunting. President of league since 1988. Regards some of Barrington's remarks to *The Field* as unwise but not grounds for dismissal. Has had huge postbag from league members critical of Barrington.

Howard Hodges: New chairman of league's executive committee. Aged 33. Member of league since 1980. Treasurer since 1987. Barrington sympathiser. Thinks some in the league do not want hunting made less cruel because that might lessen pressure for outright ban.

Moscow mafia slips through net with £1.4m

BY STEWART TENDLER, CRIME CORRESPONDENT

BRITISH detectives have been forced to hand back to the Russian mafia £1.4 million being laundered through the banking system. At the same time, investigations against several suspects have been dropped because the Moscow authorities failed to provide crucial evidence.

Police believe the money was extracted from the Russian Government as advance payments on fraudulent contracts promising deliveries of food and oil. To keep it and to press charges, the police and Crown Prosecution Service needed evidence from the Russians to show that it was the proceeds of crime.

The Russian authorities were told about the investigation last December, but appeals for help disappeared into Moscow's bureaucracy and never emerged. After police were forced to release the money, it was last seen heading for two Hungarian bank accounts.

Senior officers and money laundering experts at the Southeast Regional Crime Squad accept they have lost the cash, but say they have destroyed a highly successful, £53 million money laundering operation. Police believe that over three years the proceeds from fraud, prostitution, drugs and arms deals vanished through companies in London and the Channel Islands.

The investigation originated with a tip from MI5 to the National Criminal Intelligence Service. Under the laundering scheme, cash from Russian banks thought to be controlled by the mafia was moved through Britain to another network of companies in the United States and Canada. The companies were involved in the import/export business and some did do genuine business as well as acting as a cover.

Eventually, the cleansed money went into numbered accounts in Switzerland and Austria. Other cash went to Russian emigrés on America's West Coast.

Charity puts boot into makers of sports shoes

BY KATHRYN KNIGHT

A LEADING charity has attacked sports shoe companies for exploiting overseas workers while paying millions of pounds to sports stars to endorse their trainers.

While high-profile players such as Andre Agassi receive millions of pounds in promotional contracts, production workers for Nike, Adidas, Puma and Reebok in Asia often work for as little as £3 a day, according to a Christian Aid report today.

Typically, 40 workers in factories in the Philippines share £1 of the average £50 retail price of trainers in Britain. Christian Aid is urging sports companies to improve pay and conditions for its workers, often young women, in Thailand, China and the Philippines.

The report's authors, Bethan Brooks and Peter Madden, say that workers who try to organise unions have been fired, health and safety conditions are sub-standard and overtime is often enforced at appalling rates. A Reebok shoe can cost £38 to £44 in Britain but labour costs less than £1.30.

"The £25 million deal with Reebok reputedly lined up by the Liverpool football team would be enough to more than double the wages of the 40,000 workers who make Reebok trainers in China and the Philippines," the report says.

Reebok said in a statement that it had a strong commitment to maintaining good workplace conditions in its factories and had a rigorous code of conduct setting standards for fair wages, working hours, enforced labour and health and safety.

Forbidding planet may give clues to weather

BY A STAFF REPORTER

SCIENTISTS are hoping that an improvement in weather forecasts will result from a six-year space voyage expected to reach its climax this week. Astronomers around the world are awaiting the arrival of the unmanned spacecraft *Galileo* at Jupiter after a 300 million-mile journey.

On Thursday a tiny probe that was launched from the spacecraft last July will become the first manmade object to enter Jupiter's atmosphere. It will transmit information about the planet for 75 minutes before being destroyed by the intense heat and pressure.

Professor Fred Taylor of Oxford University, head of the British scientific team that has equipment on *Galileo*, said: "This is a very exciting time for us. I have been working on this project since 1976."

Professor Taylor, an atmospheric physicist, hopes the probe will disclose whether Jupiter's winds, known to reach more than 300mph, are matched by equally ferocious storms and lightning. He believes that details of the Jovian weather will improve our understanding of weather on Earth. "New knowledge always translates into practical applications," he said.

Galileo will orbit Jupiter for about two years, recording data. The Nasa project has been dogged by problems. Professor Taylor's experiments have been disrupted by the failure of *Galileo's* main communications antenna failed to function, which has impaired the spacecraft's ability to transmit information to earth.

Siberian winds bring snow and big freeze

BY A STAFF REPORTER

A BITTERLY cold weather front from Siberia will sweep across the country this week bringing sleet and snow, forecasters said yesterday. The Meteorological Office said the winds would bring a widespread hard frost and daytime temperatures unlikely to be above freezing.

Eastern and central parts will be most affected by the expected chill, which is likely to last all week. The London Weather Centre said the eastern half of the country should brace itself for snow showers by Wednesday.

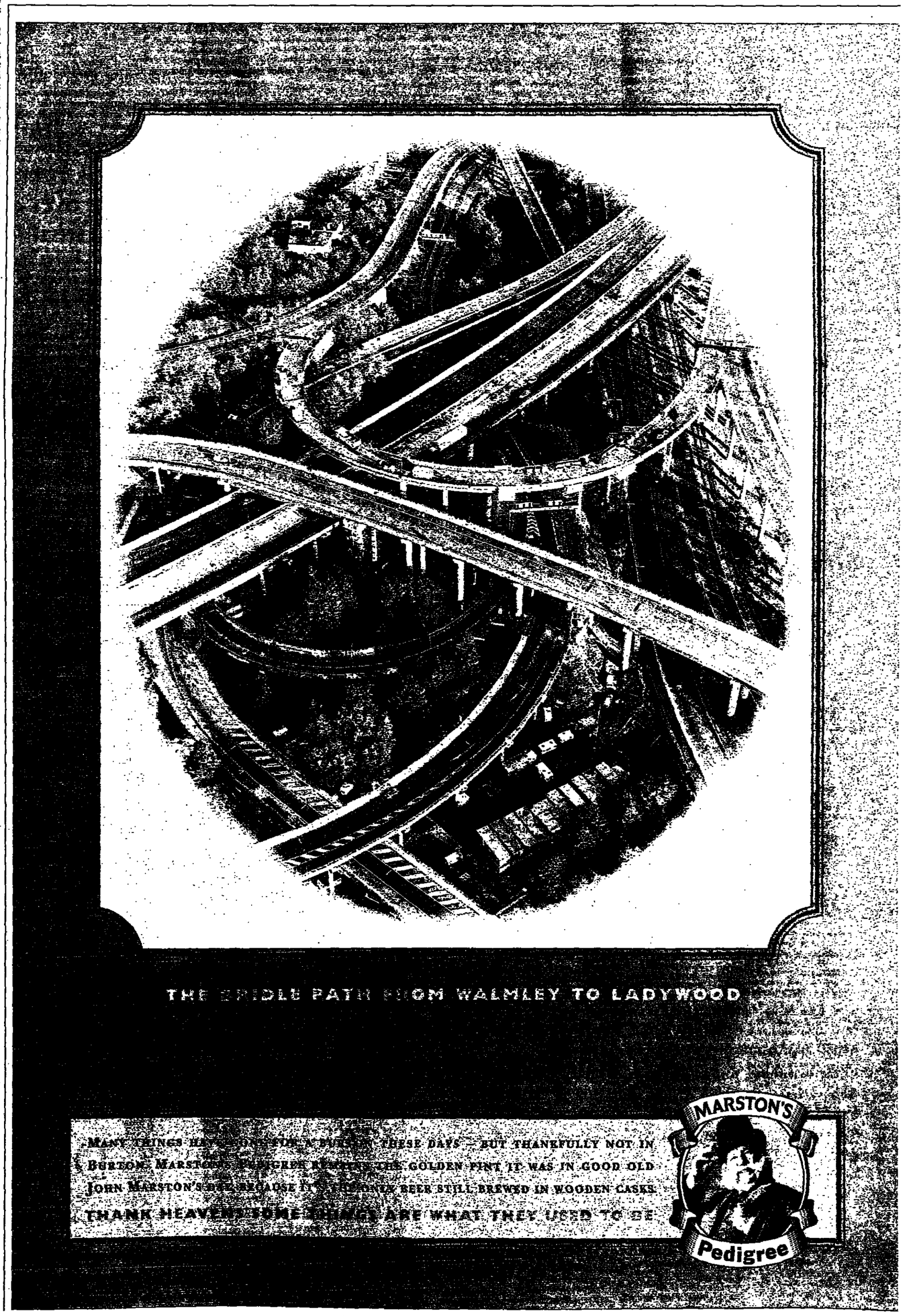
"The wind is coming straight from Siberia and although it will have warmed up, it will still be bitterly cold," a spokesman said.

Bookmakers have been quoting odds of 10-1 against snow falling in London on Christmas Day. Snow has fallen on December 25 in the capital eight times this century — the last time in 1970.

The AA advised drivers to pay extra attention to tyres and to check that routes were clear before setting off.

☐ This autumn was the mildest this century and the fifth warmest since records began 300 years ago.

Forecast, page 22



Family fears new hearing could backfire on disgraced Barings trader

Leeson's lawyers assess danger of sentence appeal

BY JOANNA BALE

LAWYERS representing Nick Leeson are debating whether to take the gamble of appealing against his 6½-year jail sentence.

They fear the disgraced Barings trader could face an increase in his sentence to eight years, the maximum allowed for the two charges he admitted, if the case is taken to the Singapore appeal court.

The lawyers have ten days in which to lodge an appeal, which would be likely to concentrate on the mitigating factors in the case, particularly Leeson's co-operation with the authorities after his return to Singapore. His relatives said yesterday that they had yet to be informed of a decision.

Alec Sims, Leeson's father-in-law, said: "We are very disappointed with the length of the sentence and we hope Nick's lawyers will be able to reduce it in some way. I am told an appeal could be risky and we are waiting to hear what they are advising him to do, but the last thing we want is for an even longer sentence."

Leeson's wife was staying with friends outside Britain yesterday and planning to return to Singapore later this week where she hopes to visit her husband. Lisa Leeson, 26, has pledged to stand by him and to try to visit him once a month.

Mr Sims, of West Kingsdown, Kent, added: "Lisa is bearing up quite well under the circumstances. She plans to return to Singapore some time this week, then maybe come back to England."

Before going out to play a round of golf, he explained that the family was still coming to terms with the shock of the sentence, which was longer than had been predicted.

He said: "We are still trying to digest what has happened. The last couple of days have been very stressful. We don't really know much at all at the moment. We don't know what the visitation rights are likely to be or when they can start. We are in the dark, but whatever happens, we will support Lisa and Nick."

Leeson's sister Sarah said: "We are disappointed with the sentence and it would be even more devastating if it was increased on appeal."

Under his present sentence, Leeson will serve at least four years before he can expect parole. The Singapore court's decision on Saturday came in the face of widespread speculation that the sentence was likely to be about two years, after reports of plea-bargaining by Leeson, who admitted two charges of financial misrepresentation.

He is understood to have agreed to give evidence against James Bax, his former managing director, should a case come to court. Investigators are also exploring the role of Simon Jones, another Barings boss named by Leeson's lawyers. Both men have surrendered their passports.

Leeson, 28, was blamed for piling up losses that broke Britain's oldest merchant bank, while managing its futures trading operations in Singapore.

Bondholders of Barings Bank want new civil actions over the case to help to recover their losses. Jonathan Stone, chairman of the Perpetual Noteholders Action Group, said the trial had dealt only with superficial details of Leeson's wrongdoing and had failed to get to the heart of the scandal in London. He added: "This trial is essentially a sideshow."

PETER NICHOLLS



A typical cell in the once-notorious Changi prison, where Nick Leeson may serve some of his sentence

Jails promise tough but fair regime

NICK LEESON will experience "spartan but humane" conditions inside Singapore's jails, according to government officials. Inmates sleep on thin mats on the floor and there is no air-conditioning to offer relief from the stifling heat and humidity (Joanna Bale writes). There is, however, little of the physical brutality and sexual abuse seen in some Far Eastern prisons. Former inmates say warders are not harsh on those who follow the rules.

Leeson has been held at the maximum-security Tanah Merah jail, on the eastern side of Singapore island, since arriving from Germany on November 23. He has shared a cell with two others accused of white-collar crimes. Part of his sentence is expected to be served at the once-notorious Changi jail, built on the site of the prisoner of war camp where thousands of British soldiers died during World War Two. It is now a modern, efficient operation, although the 1,700 prisoners have to endure constant noise from the international airport beside it.

The government spokesman said jail conditions contrasted with some Western countries, where inmates have many of the comforts of free citizens. "Singapore, as with most other Asian countries, does not adopt such practices."

A former convict in Singapore said: "The food is generally OK, and an Englishman can have Western food." The man, 31, served five terms in maximum and medium-security jails for forgery and burglary between 1980 and 1993.

He said conditions had improved over that period, with friendlier and more-educated guards and better work clothes. "Even the toilets have improved, and now have auto-flushing." Inmates can exercise and watch television, and all except drug addicts can smoke.

Physical or sexual abuse of prisoners is rare, he added. "They have very tight controls, and if you complain to the authorities they make sure it doesn't happen again. If you behave well, it's not a harsh life," he said.

Dorrell tries to allay BSE beef fears

BY MICHAEL HORNSBY
AGRICULTURE CORRESPONDENT

THE Government insisted yesterday there was "no conceivable risk" of anyone eating beef infected with bovine spongiform encephalopathy, or "mad cow" disease.

Stephen Dorrell, the Health Secretary, and Kenneth Calman, the Chief Medical Officer, issued the assurance in the face of growing doubts by eminent scientists about the safety of beef. Interviewed by Jonathan Dimbleby on London Weekend Television, Mr Dorrell said he would let his children eat hamburgers and made the same pledge on behalf of Dr Calman.

Mr Dorrell was asked whether he would "do a John Gummer" — a reference to the attempt by the then Agriculture Minister five years ago to reassure the public by feeding his four-year-old daughter Cordelia with a hamburger in front of television cameras. Mr Dorrell replied: "Yes, I would and what is more — which will perhaps give people more assurance — is that the Government's Chief Medical Officer will do that and he is a man of scientific eminence, which I am not."

Seven out of 16 scientists surveyed by *The Sunday Times* said they believed "on balance" that some people would develop Creutzfeldt-Jacob disease (CJD), the human counterpart to BSE, from eating beef products.

Boy, 13, kept mum over £500 treat

BY A STAFF REPORTER

A SCHOOLBOY saved in secret for a year to give his mother the present of a lifetime for his own birthday.

Michael Cheshire, who is 13 today, spent £500 taking Shellagh Cheshire to the theatre to see *Cats* in a chauffeur-driven limousine brimming with flowers and chocolates. The following day Michael, from Grasscroft, Greater Manchester, whisked his 50-year-old mother away on a mini-cruise to Amsterdam.

He said: "I wanted to give her something just for being my mum. She's the best." He started saving when his grandmother died and left him £200. "I saved all my pocket money and the rest was from my paper round."

Mrs Cheshire said: "All the time and effort he's put in to planning everything is amazing. It's very kind of him and a very special gesture."

Hard labour urged for absent fathers

BY JEREMY LAURANCE, HEALTH CORRESPONDENT

FATHERS unwilling to support their illegitimate children should be made to perform hard labour for up to ten hours a day, a right-wing think-tank says today. Penal measures against irresponsible fathers are necessary to curb the spiralling rate of family breakdown, the report by the Insitute of Economic Affairs says.

The recent focus on lone mothers, for whom benefits were frozen in the Budget, is misplaced and the severest measures should be taken against fathers. "To father a child and refuse to take responsibility should be clearly marked out as one of the lowest things a man can do," says the report by Dr David Green, director of the institute's health and welfare unit.

Dr Green says that where a father is not willing to marry the mother, or the mother will not marry the father, the father must pay the full cost of maintenance. Poorly paid fathers should be legally required to hand over all their earnings above the income support level and have all their savings and "non-essential" possessions confiscated up to the amount required.

"If they give up work they should be compelled to work at special centres as a condition of receiving benefit. It may be necessary to make this work especially burdensome, by performance of hard labour for up to ten hours a day. If necessary, we should not shrink from such measures," Dr Green says.

Failure by a father to register a birth, threatening a mother with violence to conceal the father's identity and failing to pay maintenance should become criminal offences. "These measures will strike many as severe and that is the intention. They are likely to bring about a substantial behavioural change by men."

WATCH OUT FOR

THREE TESSAs

COMING THROUGH

YOUR DOOR.



Starting this week Abbey National will be writing to its existing customers, whose TESSAs are about to mature, with information on the three exciting new TESSAs being launched in January. The TESSA Collection includes both fixed and variable interest rate options. All customers with a maturing TESSA will receive details approximately 4 weeks before maturity.

In the meantime, to find out more, whether you already have an Abbey National TESSA or not, simply drop into your nearest branch or call us free on **0800 100 805,** Monday to Friday 9.00am to 5.00pm or Saturday 9.00am to 1.00pm, quoting reference A372B.

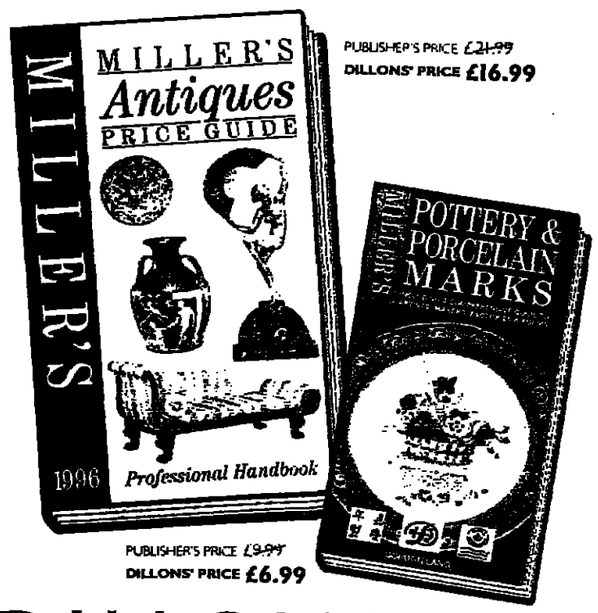
ABBEY NATIONAL®
The habit of a lifetime

W215

For your security and to assist us in improving our service to you we may record or monitor all calls to Abbey National Direct. TESSAs are subject to statutory rules and regulations which may change from time to time and are tax free provided you comply with the conditions of the accounts. Please note that certain eligibility criteria apply. See in branch leaflets for details. Abbey National, the Umbrella Couple symbol and The habit of a lifetime are trademarks of Abbey National plc, Abbey House, Baker Street, London NW1 6XL.

d

Priceless.



PUBLISHER'S PRICE £21.99
DILLONS' PRICE £16.99

PUBLISHER'S PRICE £9.99
DILLONS' PRICE £6.99

DILLONS
THE BOOKSTORE
You'll enjoy the change this Christmas.

A FURTHER £5 OFF any book with the Dillons Privilege Card

* For your additional £5 discount pick up your Privilege Card at any Dillons Bookstore. Everytime you spend £10 you will receive a stamp. When your card is complete with ten stamps, you are entitled to £5 off your next purchase

هكذا من الأصل

Another world's fastest chip

H-P claims its PA-8000 will outperform others

It's a title that seems to shift on a monthly basis, but Hewlett-Packard Co. announced a chip design Monday that it says deserves the title of the world's fastest microprocessor.

The PA-8000 ... will be ... of H-P's line ... instruction-set computing. H-P's workstations have ... controlling 32.7 per-cent of ... systems ... analyst ...

Shortages hit 486 suppliers

A worldwide shortage of 486 chips is starting to make life difficult for system vendors as Intel shifts semiconductor production in favor of Pentium ... Advanced Micro Devices ... demand ...

HP lifts curtain on 64-bit chip, keeps mum on Intel project

Determined not to lose mind share in the processor game, Hewlett-Packard Co. last week provided a glimpse of its 64-bit PA-RISC 8000 architecture, which is still a year from delivery.

At the same time, officials at HP and Intel Corp. all but denied a wire service news report that said the results of the two companies' collaborative microprocessor development would ... in 1997 ... That report was based on ... Barrett, who ...

IN TUNE WI...

In showing ... that the 64-... UltraSPARC ... betting that 64-...

"By the end ... Larry Inman, HP ... don't see the valu...

IBM, Motorola To Announce 64-bit PowerPC

... 64-bit PowerPC ... r, which IBM and ... will announce ... th, promises dra... ...provements in ... multiprocessing ... over the 601, ... chips, sources ... to come ... —twice ... 604's ... The ... other ... apart ... PowerPC ...

IBM, Motorola show off PowerPC 620 prototype; volume shipment expected in '95

IBM and Motorola are announcing the PowerPC 620 this week, the most advanced implementation of the PowerPC architecture to date.

As part of the announcement, the two companies introduced the first 620 prototype, with sample shipments to follow in the second quarter of 1995. Volume production ... second half ...

INTEL-HEWLETT-PACKARD ALLIANCE SEEN RALLYING A 64-BIT MICROPROCESSOR STANDARDS EFFORT

There are scant details of how Hewlett-Packard Co. plans to introduce ... technology developed under its ali...

traffic ... massive 64KB ... ...ment ... had 32KB or ...

IBM accelerates revamp of OS/400; PowerPC version due later this year

As IBM ships the last of its promised OS/400 Release 3.1 components this week, it is paving the way for delivery of a completely redesigned, PowerPC-based ... their respective server platforms.

The stakes are high. IBM claimed an installed base of 300,000 AS/400s at the end of 1994, with sales growing by 50,000 units per ... applications ... from 3,000 ... client/server ... said.

IBM big iron revamps bode well for 95; Client/server OS, 64-bit architecture await AS/400

IBM has spent the past few years trying ... to answer questions about the ... ce in a client/server world. In ... will start to find out whether ... giant got it right.

... ver-oriented rewrite of the ... g system is supposed to be ... February, following a ... eagerly awaiting the coming makeover ...

IBM reiterates PowerPC commitment

IBM is expected to ship its long-awaited PowerPC desktop systems in June, but with a beta version of OS/2 for PowerPC, Lee Reiswig, general manager of the Personal Software Products division, said at an analyst conference in Orlando. The ...

HP set to launch PA-8000 chip; systems not expected until 1996

... kard Co. plans to announce its next ... cision Architecture microproces... ... on March 6.

... expected to achieve a rating ... SPECint92 and greater than 550 ... performance numbers are ... the processor nears produc... ... with the product said. ... speed greater than 200 ...

Sun Microsystems Inc.'s SparcTechnology Business and MIPS Technology Inc. have both announced the architecture of their next generation processors a year before they will appear in any products.

"It's sort of a liar's race," said Andrew Allison, editor of Inside the New Computer Industry. "The stakes keep going up."

The RISC chip makers are trying to prove they have processors advanced enough to not only ... each other but to also compete ... the gap in integer ... sions and ... editor of the ... 9000 servers ... said 150 ... SPECint92 for Intel's ... ping in the third ... Intel officials. ... be in 1997 a P7 ... junction with ... than ...

Sun announces untested 64-bit chip

... Microsystems Inc.'s SparcTechnology ... d the ... id the ... e next ... be ... cations ... d how ... ...d the performance gap but ...

compared to Digital's Alpha AXP 21164, which has a SPECint92 rating of 330.

HP, Sun's biggest rival, is shipping a PA-7150 processor that has a SPECint rating of 135 and next month will introduce the PA-7200, which is expected to have a SPECint92 rating of about 150.

1997 date set for delivery of HP/Intel P7

Intel Corp. acknowledged last week that the P7 will be the first chip to come out of the alliance ... forward with ... per second (see "Pentium now, VLIW later," Jan. 30, page 1).

The basic concept of the VLIW is to have the com...

PowerPC Much hype, little demand

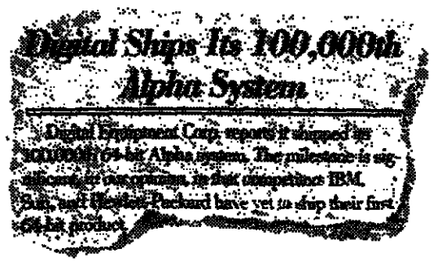
PC Week via Firsts Hannover, Germany — IBM, Apple Computer ... and Motorola Inc. showed little restraint in hyping the PowerPC ... here last week, but in private, officials from the troika ... eir standard isn't ready for prime time.

... nge of PowerPC processors in the pipe that best Intel ... price/performance, lagging system and software ... continues to keep the PowerPC from breaking out of the ... ne and winning converts in the PC mainstream.

... ng to take two to three years for us to really challenge Intel," ... Hester, general manager of IBM's Systems and Technology ... sion, in Austin, Texas. "I don't have illusions that this is an ... overnight dis...

IT'S NICE TO SEE IBM AND HP FIGHTING OVER WHO WILL BE NUMBER 2.

In fact, it's downright heartwarming. Digital, of course, beat both of them to 64-bit computing long ago. And while neither one has a 64-bit machine to sell you, we're now on our second generation of 64-bit Alpha-based workstations and servers. Machines that offer price/performance leadership at every level. For example, our new AlphaStation™ 250 system is half the price of the comparably performing HP workstation.[1] While our new AlphaServer™ 8200 and 8400 systems are the first and only servers capable of running the newest 64-bit database products – letting your application directly address up to 14GB of data in main memory, and giving you performance gains of up to one hundred times over 32-bit enterprise systems. Alpha-based systems run thousands of applications – including the ones you need most. And, thanks to the enormous capacity and scalability of 64-bit architecture, they'll work with your present equipment, and grow almost limitlessly as your business grows. Sure, it's possible that HP or IBM really will have 64-bit machines, eventually. But even when they start offering real-world 64-bit products, it'll still be years before they'll have been as thoroughly tested and evolved as ours are right now. So why wait? Whatever your business, whatever your budget, you can do what thousands of companies all over the world have done – and what IBM and HP have been unable to do – have a 64-bit computer you can call your own. For more information, contact your Digital business associate. Or call us on 0800 320 300. Or reach us via our Internet address: moreinfo@digital.com.



digital™

©1995 Digital Equipment Corporation. Digital, the DIGITAL logo, AlphaStation and AlphaServer are trademarks of Digital Equipment Corporation. All other products are trademarks or registered trademarks of their respective companies. [1]As of 6/6/95.

Restaurateurs struggle to defend extras that make bills less palatable

Diners back peer's campaign to end service charges

BY ALICE THOMSON AND ROBIN YOUNG

A CAMPAIGN against service charges and hidden extras on restaurant bills will be boosted this week by a survey showing that a substantial majority of customers want them ended.

The survey of 1,200 people who use restaurants regularly was carried out by the Consumers' Association. The Earl of Bradford, whose Private Member's Bill seeking to make restaurant menu prices all-inclusive has its second reading in the House of Lords next month, said: "This should help the Government see the necessity for legislation. We have seen that self-regulation simply will not work."

He is to discuss the Bill with officials at the Trade Department tomorrow. "I will know more about the Bill's prospect after that, but even if the Government do not support the case for regulation there is such a lot of individual support among members that I believe the Bill would still have a chance."

Lord Bradford, who owns a restaurant in Covent Garden, has fought for 15 years for a code of practice. His restaurant, Porter's, adds a discretionary service charge only for parties of more than four and there is no cover charge.

The Bill has the support of the British Tourist Board, food critics and the Consumers' Association. Restaurant owners are divided on the issue.

The Restaurateurs' Association of Great Britain, of which Lord Bradford is a leading member, failed to agree on support for the Bill last week. The association, which has 1,000 members, supported the idea of legislation to set a uniform system but could not agree what system to adopt. Some restaurateurs argue that abolition of service charges would increase menu prices unacceptably and could force some restaurants out of business.



Bradford: no cover charge in his restaurant

The Bill would require restaurants to print in a prominent place on the menu: "Our prices are fully inclusive and our staff do not expect a tip or gratuity." It would also outlaw cover charges and make restaurants complete credit card slips in full, so diners are not misled into paying for service twice. Later Lord Bradford would like set tourist menus to be made obligatory in restaurants.

Helen Parker, Editor of *Which?*, which will publish the survey of customers on Thursday, said: "Lord Bradford's Bill will bring Britain into line with every European country except Greece. Restaurant charges are an unjustified anomaly. Buy something in a shop and a shop assistant wouldn't accept a tip."

Sue Garland, the British Tourist Authority's head of policy, said: "Our overseas visitors spent £2.2 billion eating out last year, 22 per cent of the total. We don't want customers to be presented with extra hidden costs or bills they don't understand. Despite the restaurateurs' doubts, we will fight this issue to the end."

The restaurant critic Fay Maschler conceded that some restaurants might close but pointed out that only 40 per cent of restaurants survived their first year. "I would like to see waitering taken as a serious profession, as in France, something people would aspire to and enjoy and it is not easy if they are continually having to tout for tips," she said.

The Bill is to have its second reading on January 10.

☐ A record number of families will be eating out for Christmas lunch this year. Pubs, restaurants and hotels have reported earlier and greater bookings for Christmas Day, and thousands are already full.

At the Cliveden Hotel in Buckinghamshire, Christmas packages priced from £1,200 to £2,330 per person have been sold out for more than a month. In London, the Savoy's River Restaurant and Grill are full for Christmas lunches and dinners from £100 to £130 a head, as is Claridge's at £110 for lunch and £85 for candlelit dinner.

Jerry Watson of Bass Taverns said: "We have been promoting our Christmas offers since August, and almost all our 130 Toby Restaurants are fully booked for our £34.95 four-course Christmas lunch."

Jackie Kernaghan, sales director for Forté, said: "We have definitely seen an increase in people eating out at Christmas. More people are staying in hotels, and working women are keen to relax with their families rather than doing all the hard work at home."

Leading article, page 19

MARTIN BEDDALL



Jean-Pierre Chatelain, head waiter in a London restaurant that levies a 12½ per cent service charge on customers

THE LEGAL POSITION

Restaurants are obliged by law to display outside or immediately inside the door any service charge that is to be automatically included in the bill. If it is displayed, the customer should pay unless there is something wrong with the service. If service charges are not indicated the customer does not have to pay, but can decide whether to tip and how much.

The 1989 Consumer Protection Act said restaurants should include any compulsory service charge within the price of each item, rather than adding a percentage charge to the bill.

Since establishments that followed the code had to show menu prices higher than those which hid additional charges in the small print, the code was so widely ignored that most restaurateurs agree it made no difference.

Ashley Holmes, head of legal affairs at the Consumers' Association, said: "We need more clarity. Even I find it confusing knowing whether service has been added."

When discretion proves the greater part of value

MICHAEL GOTTLIEB, proprietor of Smollensky's Balloon and chairman of the Restaurateurs' Association of Great Britain, was an outspoken opponent of service charges long before he abolished them in April last year.

He said yesterday: "We had service charges at 12½ per cent, then 6 per cent, and then when the recession came and I needed to make a crafty extra 2 per cent without my customers noticing, I put them up to 8 per cent. They didn't notice either, but early last year I abolished the charges."

Neville Abraham, vice-chairman of the association and chairman of Groupe Chez Gerard, said: "If we did not have a discretionary service charge of 12½ per cent, which virtually all customers pay, we would have to put our prices up by more than that amount. The service charge does go 100 per cent to our staff in their pay packet."

Natasha Ladenis at Chez Nico in Park Lane, London, said: "Our restaurant is always thought expensive because its prices are already fully inclusive. There are absolutely no hidden extras. We do not get any credit for our honesty. Any extra tips go to the waiters who share it among themselves."



Gottlieb: abolished service charges

Annie Schwab of Winteringham Fields, Winteringham, Humberside, said: "Our staff run a dining club with part of their tips, which are divided equally between the kitchen and dining room staff at the end of each shift."

Paul Heathcote of Paul Heathcote's, Longridge, Lancashire, applies a 10 per cent optional service charge but only to a maximum of £15: "I do believe service charges are useful if they are used properly on wages. All our staff, including kitchen porters and washers, get shares unless they are on holiday."

Jean-Pierre Chatelain, head waiter at Café Fish in Panton Street, in the West End of London, gave the view from the shop floor: "Our 12½ per cent service charge is divided by a points system. The average waiter gets a basic wage of £76 a week gross, and the service charge makes that up to £150 or £160 clear, perhaps £170 in a good week. Tips belong to waiters and in an average week may add another £50."

Lisa, a waitress in a central London restaurant catering mainly for tourists, said: "I am paid £2.85 an hour and am expected to make what I can from tips. Credit cards slips are left open, but the managers take tips paid by credit card. The girls only get cash collected from the tables, sometimes £3 or £4 in a shift."

NEWS IN BRIEF

Nickell murder: man is arrested

A 31-year-old man has been arrested and interviewed about the murder of Rachel Nickell on Wimbledon Common three years ago. John Gallagher, a former barman from south London, was interviewed earlier this year in New Zealand. He voluntarily went to a police station on November 22 and has been released on bail.

Spectator shot

A woman is seriously ill after being shot in the chest at a clay pigeon shooting match. Police say she was a spectator at the private meeting near Crediton, Devon. Shoot organisers are expected to be questioned about safety.

Crash inquiry

The Police Complaints Authority is investigating the death of a woman pedestrian aged 75 who received fatal injuries in an accident involving a police van answering an emergency call on Saturday in Guildford, Surrey.

Rare birds stolen

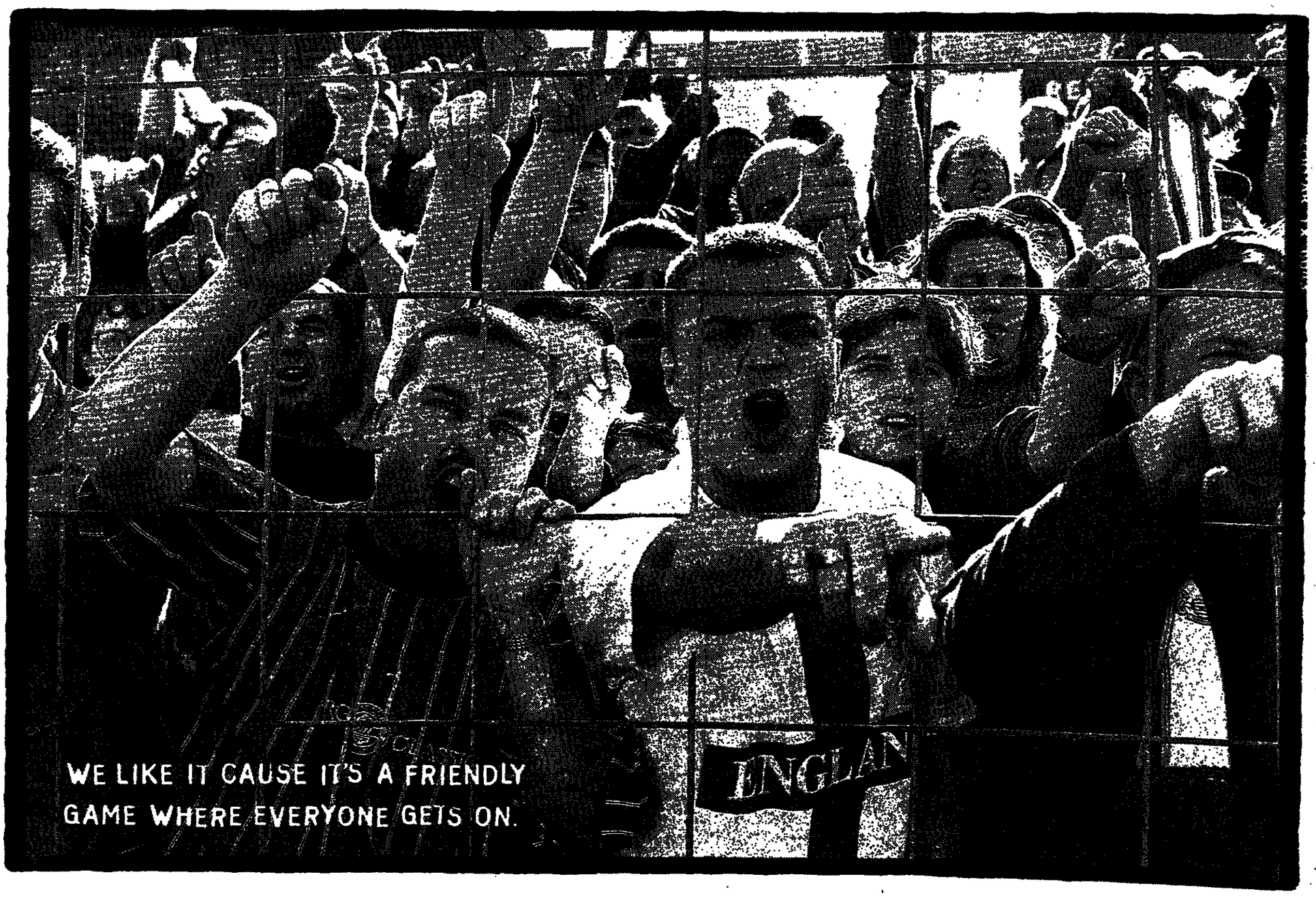
A pair of £15,000 hyacinth macaws, part of an endangered species breeding programme, have been taken from a tropical bird garden near Trowbridge, Wiltshire. Police believe they were stolen to order for a collector.

A quiet word

Bristol Central Library has set up special tables in "women-only" zones after complaints that the high shelves and quiet aisles provided the ideal setting for men to harass female readers.

Free weddings

A vicar is to waive the usual £200 marriage fee next year to persuade unwed couples in his parish to marry. The Rev Derek Sawyer, of St Aldate's, Gloucester, said the vergers and choir have also agreed to work without charge.



Trivial Pursuit™

it takes all sorts

Trivial Pursuit is a registered trademark of Horn Abbot International LTD

W31

For your chuch mas leaflets for details. Abbey National, the Umbrella Couple symbol and The habit of a lifetime are traademarks of ...

هكذا من الأصل

NEWS IN BRIEF

Nickell murder: man is arrested

A 36-year-old man has been arrested and interviewed about the murder of Rachel Nickell on Wimbledon Common three years ago. Jon Gallagher, a former barrow boy from south London, was interviewed earlier this year. He went to a police station in November 22 and has been released on bail.

Spectator shot

Crash inquiry

Rare birds stolen

A quiet word

Prison building

Peace document wins rhubarb award

Rivals in plain English wage war of blunt words

BY ROBIN YOUNG

Working towards peace in Northern Ireland seems to be easier for John Major than explaining the process, the Plain Language Commission says. It has awarded him its Golden Rhubarb trophy for the most baffling document of 1995. Ulster people who received copies of *Frameworks for the Future*, an 11,000-word booklet on the peace process, were irritated to find it full of terms such as unicameral, *ultra vires*, *inter alia* and adumbrated, Martin Cutts said.

He described the booklet as rambling, repetitive, jargon-filled and incomprehensible to its target audience. "It is difficult to find really bad government documents nowadays, but this one was quite dire. It is a feeble piece of writing." Mr Cutts said. One sentence in the booklet runs to 121 words, against the commission's recommendation of 15 to 20-word sentences for a complex subject.

A BOUT of plain speaking took place yesterday between rivals who hand out awards for clear language. The Plain Language Commission will announce its awards for 1995 today, much to the annoyance of the Plain English Campaign, an organisation with almost identical objectives.

This is the first year that the commission, a company whose director Martin Cutts used to work for the campaign, has given awards. The campaign, headed by Mr Cutts's former partner, Chrissie Maher, has been issuing honours since 1981.

The organisations are based within eight miles of each other near Stockport, Cheshire, and accept commissions from companies, local authorities and government departments to simplify official literature.

Mr Cutts worked with Mrs Maher at the campaign until 1988, when their relationship ended in acrimony. Mr Cutts established his commission the following year. The rivals now use very blunt language indeed about each other. Communications between them are simplified by no longer being on speaking terms.

Today's clash is exacerbated (plain language: *made worse*) by the fact that Mr Cutts has chosen to give one of his booby prizes to Mrs Maher's favourite award winner, NatWest Bank. Nominated by her as Crystal Clear Bank of Europe for the ease with which its literature could be understood, the bank receives from Mr Cutts a Silver Rhubarb award.

He says it is for the worst financial gobbledegook of the year, in a booklet about mortgage rates which was subtitled "a simple guide". Some of the advice on offer reads: "Depending upon the type of mortgage you have, repaying early can have certain financial consequencies *(sic)*, for instance, early repayment of a mortgage and surrender of an endowment policy, may leave you with a small surrendering sum, which may not reflect the actual monies invested. Alternatively, cancellation of a life policy without considering future needs may ultimately mean increased premiums for the same amount of life cover in the future."

Mr Cutts also criticises NatWest for new terms and conditions of business cards, which he says include an 81-word sentence and several archaisms including hereof, moneys and "shall be deemed". "One sentence is unfinished and would be meaningless in any court of law," Mr Cutts says.

Mrs Maher said yesterday: "He should be ashamed of himself. He is deliberately trying to undermine a grass-roots movement. He was a student from Liverpool University when I found him to help me."

Mr Cutts was unrepentant. "I did not know the campaign still issued awards," he said. We are entitled to do it as well. When we do commend any of our clients we will make it clear."

Mrs Maher replied: "NatWest Bank fully deserved their award. They have made real efforts, and deserve to be praised. It makes me sad to see all the good work we have done devalued in this way."

An Edinburgh law firm, Tods Murray, was chosen by the commission for its Bronze Rhubarb Award for a deed of transfer. One sentence struggles its way through 154 words with the help of two sets of brackets, two herebys, a thereof, a hereinafter and only one comma before ending with a semi-colon.

David Anderson of Tods Murray said that the document had been used in the same form for 20 years and had provoked no complaints. He said: "We agree wholeheartedly that all consumer contracts should be in plain, intelligible language. However, that does not mean that it is either necessary or desirable that they should be in colloquial language. In our view, the deed of transfer is perfectly clear."

MARC ASPLAND



Ted Butt, governor of Latchmere House, at the prison gate

Have a nice day, you're in a prison that cares

BY RICHARD FORD AND IAN MURRAY

TWO prisons are awarded Charter Markstoday for high standards of service, but the conference centre at which John Major will present a total of 224 such awards has not had its Charter Mark renewed.

The Queen Elizabeth II centre in Westminster won a three-year charter mark in 1992, the year the scheme was launched, but failed to impress the judges this year. The Cabinet Office refused to give a reason.

Gill Price, the centre's commercial director, said: "Obviously the organisers of the charter mark event think we're the best or they wouldn't be here."

The awards ceremony will be attended by staff from Latchmere House jail in Richmond, southwest London, and Brinsford young offender institution, Wolverhampton. Latchmere House was honoured for its work in retraining inmates for civilian life and Brinsford for its healthcare. Richard Tilt, acting Director-General of the Prison Service, said: "I look forward to more prisons reaching these high standards."

Any public service that controls its own budget can apply for a Charter Mark, the scheme introduced by Mr Major. It must reach a number of quality thresholds on its standard of service to the public. This year's recipients include the Royal Marsden Hospital, London, the Royal Ulster Constabulary's child abuse and rapeinquiry unit and a dog warden service in Lowestoft, Suffolk.

Pensioners dig in for new fight over hedge

BY KATHRYN KNIGHT

TWO pensioners in dispute over a cypress hedge threatened further legal action against each other yesterday despite a ruling last week apparently ending their five-year battle.

Michael Jones, 67, was told at Birmingham County Court on Thursday that he had been within his rights in 1990 to prune what was a 25ft hedge dividing his property from that of Bernard Stanton, 87, in Selly Oak.

Hopes of peace were thwarted yesterday after Mr Jones issued an ultimatum, telling Mr Stanton to prune back the hedge to 10ft by Christmas. Mr Stanton says he has no intention of cutting the hedge, which has grown back to within 3ft of its 1990 height.

Mr Stanton is considering an appeal against Thursday's ruling. He had sued Mr Jones for £30,000 damages to replace the row of ten trees but was told by Mr Recorder Wolton, QC, that he had not acted reasonably. He faces a £70,000 bill for costs.

Speaking at his detached home yesterday, Mr Jones said: "I don't want to spend another winter in the dark. I shall be contacting Mr Stanton through solicitors and hope that he will cut the hedge and pay the costs for doing so." However, Mr Stanton's son Terry, 55, said: "We have not decided whether to appeal yet. Mr Jones would be unwise to go near the hedge until we have done so."

Woman is sliced up to appear on Internet

BY NIGEL HAWKES
SCIENCE EDITOR

BROWSERS on the Internet can now study images of a 59-year-old woman, frozen and sliced into 5,200 ultra-thin wafers. "Visible Woman" — an anonymous woman from Maryland who died of a heart attack in 1993 and donated her body to science — joins Visible Man, who has been available on the Internet for the past year.

The cross-sectional images are intended for doctors, surgeons and medical students, and can be rotated and viewed through innumerable angles. Victor Spitzer, a biologist at the University of Colorado Health Sciences Centre where the bodies were sliced, said: "You study an orange by cutting it in half so it made sense with a human being." The woman's body was embedded in gelatin, frozen and cut into slices one third of a millimetre thick, using an instrument called a cryomicrotome, a mechanical planing device. It took a year to complete the process.

As each slice was removed, photographs of the top of the remaining section were taken and fed into a computer with X-ray and magnetic resonance images. The process enabled users to build up experience of imaging techniques by comparing their results with actual body cross-sections, Dr Spitzer said.

Human Project is available on the National Library of Medicine home page through http://www.nlm.nih.gov



Fly The Best First.

Best First Class '95 EXECUTIVE TRAVEL MAGAZINE

Emirates

THE FINEST IN THE SKY

ENJOY EMIRATES' AWARD-WINNING FIRST CLASS TO 58 INTERNATIONAL DESTINATIONS. CALL US OR YOUR TRAVEL AGENT.

ABBEY NATIONAL 7·79%

HALIFAX 7·74%

NATIONWIDE 7·65%

A little more help from Nationwide.

It gives us great pleasure to inform you we've dropped our mortgage rate, for the second time in recent months. Good news for everyone, except perhaps the Halifax or Abbey National. Our standard variable rate is at a much lower 7.65%, even lower than Halifax and Abbey National. For our new borrowers we have an early Christmas present as this rate is available immediately. And for our existing mortgage customers, what better way to see in the New Year than with our lower mortgage rate, from 1st January 1996. Throughout each year, we consistently strive to offer our customers the most competitive rates possible. You can find our more by visiting your local Nationwide branch. We'll be very happy to hear from you.

Nationwide THE 'BUILDING' SOCIETY.

Find us on the Internet at http://www.nationwide.co.uk/nationwide

Abbey National 8·3% APR (variable)

Halifax 8·2% APR (variable)

Nationwide 8·1% APR (variable)

All rates quoted are for standard variable rate repayment mortgages. Rates correct as at 1st December 1995 and only applicable for new borrowers. APR's are based on the standard variable rate applying for the term of the mortgage. Halifax Building Society typical example assumes a standard variable rate of 7.74% on a £40,000 repayment mortgage over 25 years on a purchase price of £50,000. 300 monthly payments of £279.37 net of MIRAS at 15%. APR 8.2% (variable). Total Amount Payable £91,830. Abbey National plc typical example assumes a standard variable rate of 7.79% on a £40,000 repayment mortgage over 25 years on a purchase price of £60,000. 300 monthly payments of £280.49 net of MIRAS at 15%. APR 8.3% (variable). Total Amount Payable £92,129. Nationwide typical example assumes a standard variable rate 7.65% on a £40,000 repayment mortgage over 25 years on a purchase price of £60,000. 300 monthly payments of £277.95 net of MIRAS at 15%. APR 8.1% (variable). Total Amount Payable £91,118. In calculating the effect of MIRAS monthly payments shown, assume the amount paid towards capital and interest remains the same for each payment. Solicitor's mortgage costs £100 excluding VAT (assumes same solicitor acts for both the Society and the borrower), redemption fee of £90. Mortgages are subject to status and security over your home. Available to those aged 18 and over. For loans exceeding 75% an additional charge will be made. Written quotations are available on request from Nationwide Building Society, Nationwide House, Pipers Way, Swindon SN38 1NW. Nationwide is a member of the Building Societies Ombudsman Scheme, and subscribes to the Code of Banking Practice.

YOUR HOME IS AT RISK IF YOU DO NOT KEEP UP REPAYMENTS ON A MORTGAGE OR OTHER LOAN SECURED ON IT.

Doctors call for tougher alcohol limit on drivers

BY RICHARD FORD AND JEREMY LAURANCE

Fifty-seven per cent of drivers did not know the legal drink-drive limit in a survey conducted by the insurers Eagle Star. Of those who claimed they did know, 36 per cent believed — wrongly — that a man would still be under the limit after two pints of lager. Over 60 per cent believed that a pint of lager and a single brandy contained the same amount of alcohol — the lager has twice as much. One in ten motorists believed a woman could drink three glasses of wine and stay under the limit — it is likely to push her over. The legal drink-drive limits are 35 micrograms of alcohol in 100 millilitres of breath; 80 milligrams of alcohol in 100 millilitres of blood; or 107 milligrams of alcohol in 100 millilitres of urine.

DOCTORS want permitted alcohol levels for drivers almost halved to reduce the number of road deaths and accidents linked to drink.

The British Medical Association's call today for the maximum alcohol/blood ratio to be cut from 80 milligrams per 100 millilitres to 50 milligrams comes on the eve of the Government's annual Christmas drink-drive campaign. The reduction would bring Britain into line with France, Portugal, Norway and The Netherlands.

The BMA's intervention will increase the pressure on the Department of Transport to consider cutting the limit for the first time since it was introduced almost 30 years ago. An alcohol/blood level of 80 milligrams is roughly equivalent to two pints of ordinary bitter or four glasses of wine for a man, half as much for a woman.

Last week, police chiefs in Scotland called for a similar reduction, arguing that it would have prevented 213 serious accidents and saved £183 million in Scotland between 1988 and 1993.

In a letter to Sir George Young, the Transport Secretary, the BMA says that although national initiatives play a part in reducing road accidents related to alcohol, additional measures are needed.

"Despite advice from the Government and safety organisations that the safest option is not to drink and drive, many drivers still look to the legal limit for guidance about safe drinking and driving levels," the letter says.

"Research has shown that the relative risk of driver involvement in road traffic accidents greatly increases at blood alcohol levels over 50 milligrams of alcohol in 100 millilitres of blood."

The letter adds that as France has recently imposed a 50mg/100ml limit, it is time for the Government to consider a similar move here. It also backs demands by chief police officers in England and Wales for the introduction of random breath testing. "The possibility of being tested randomly is considered more likely to act as a deterrent when drivers have a higher chance of being caught," the BMA says.

Research carried out at Glasgow University has shown that reaction times of motorists who have been drinking but are within the legal limit can be 20 per cent lower than usual.

The Government's £1 million Christmas campaign, to be launched tomorrow, will target motorists who ignore the risk and dangers of driving after drinking. It will include advertisements on television and hoardings and in newspapers and magazines.

The television commercial will show that although a young drink-driver may not be too concerned what happens to him, he does become upset about the effects on his friends.

This year the Association of Chief Police Officers is dropping its usual practice of publishing a breakdown of the total number of breath tests carried out and the number that proved positive in the 43 forces in England and Wales. Instead of drink-drive figures being produced on December 23 and January 2, there will be one set produced in the New Year. Police sources said last night that the decision to cut back on the information was because of the enormous manpower involved in producing the figures.



Yve Newbold: urged women workers to fight harder

Women accuse firms of bias on company cars

BY JONATHAN PRYNN, TRANSPORT CORRESPONDENT

FEMALE executives who claw their way up the corporate ladder feel they are being fobbed off with less prestigious company cars than their male colleagues.

Three out of four believe that men are given more powerful or prestigious cars than women in equivalent jobs, according to a survey of 167 women executives by the Henley Management School. The survey follows an industrial tribunal in March in which a woman manager was awarded £750 after her employer gave her a Y-registration pool car while a male colleague on a lower salary was given a new car.

Although some companies allocate a make of car to a particular grade of job, many still leave the choice to the discretion of senior managers, who are predominantly men.

Recent research showed that 60 per cent of company cars worth less than £12,000 were driven by women, even though women make up only 17 per cent of company car drivers. Luxury models worth over £30,000 are almost exclusively the preserve of men.

Yve Newbold, former company secretary of the Hanson industrial conglomerate and chief executive of Pro-Ned, which represents non-executive directors, said women were not fighting hard enough for the high-status company cars that their jobs commanded. "I had to fight very hard at Hanson to get a Jaguar XJ6 and I was one of the first people in the company to have one. Car appeal has a range of subtle, symbolic reasons for men that do not apply to women," she said. "They are bound up with power, thrust, virility and speed, whereas women are more concerned with whether the car is polluting the kerbside where there are mothers with babies."

More than 60 per cent of female executives believed that their male collegues resented women driving luxury company cars, according to the survey, a statement with which 46 per cent of men agreed.

About half the women surveyed also complained about sexism on the roads among male drivers and said they were frequently subjected to offensive gestures and language and "unnecessary overtaking and cutting up".

However, the research found that only 27 per cent of women company car drivers drove more than 18,000 miles a year compared with 60 per cent of men.

Some management experts said that women opted for smaller vehicles because they were less concerned than men with the status value of company cars. "Women would often prefer to trade in a large car or a prestigious car for some other benefit such as childcare," said Valerie Hammond of the Roffey Park Management Institute.

RAC research shows that the most popular choice of car among women was the Ford Fiesta while men preferred the more powerful Ford Sierra.

THE JAGUAR XJ SERIES
COSTS LESS
THAN YOU THINK.



BUT IT'S
WORTH MORE THAN
YOU IMAGINE.

THE ADVANCED TECHNOLOGY JAGUAR XJ SERIES.

Whatever price a new Jaguar XJ6 may conjure in your mind, the reality is likely to be rather different.

An eminently sensible £30,100* is the list price of the car which The Sunday Times described as "Far and away the best saloon car in the world." Complete Car added that a Jaguar "...oozes style in a very tempting overall package."

The overall package is indeed the thing. What other car at this price brings together twin airbags, anti-lock brakes and an 8-speaker audio system with the walnut-trimmed, luxuriously upholstered interior of a British design classic? Consider also that every new Jaguar is covered by a comprehensive, three year/60,000 mile manufacturer's warranty, and six year anti-corrosion and three year paint and surface defect warranties.

The price even includes the comprehensive protection of the RAC's Incident Management throughout the UK and, in Europe, of Mondial European Emergency Assistance. Both, again, will give you peace of mind for a full three years.

Suddenly, the prospect of a brand new Jaguar doesn't seem quite so remote, does it?

For more information or to arrange a test drive, call **0800 70 80 60** or fax **0171 611 6968**. JAGUAR

DON'T DREAM IT. DRIVE IT.

*Price correct at time of going to press, is for an XJ6 3.2 manual and excludes cost of delivery, number plates and a full tank of petrol (£450 excluding VAT).

425

Eat, drink and be merry with a touch of Greek



MEDICAL BRIEFING

TRADITIONAL British winter fare, culminating in a Christmas dinner of roast beef, game, turkey, plum pudding, brandy butter and mince pies, displays our national cooking at its best.

But does the diet that fills the tables of such conventional restaurants as Simpson's and Rules also play a part in filling the beds at the National Heart Hospital? Would we be healthier, if not happier, and live longer if, like the Portuguese, we were prepared to accept dried and salted cod for Christmas lunch?

The British diet, which has produced chefs who understand roasting better than anyone else in the world, may have also provided enough cases to make our cardiologists equally eminent. In the same week as the Greek Prime Minister's family sent for a British cardiologist who gained his experience working on Londoners' coronaries, the *British Medical Journal* published an analysis on the effect of the Greek version of the Mediterranean diet on longevity. The research workers, doctors from the departments of public health and epidemiology of the universities of Athens, Melbourne and Harvard, were not only concerned about death from cardiovascular disease — earlier surveys have explored the effect of the Mediterranean diet on these — but the overall mortality from all causes.

The international team of doctors descended on three villages in Greece between October 1988 and June 1990. While there they carefully recorded the eating, drinking and smoking habits of the older village residents. Between April 1993 and January 1994 the doctors returned to see how many of the older people they had interviewed had died and related the composition of their diet to their age at death.

It seems that the traditional Greek villager is not adventurous in the choice of food and still largely follows the historic folk diet. This diet, in which the protein is more likely to be fish than meat, also includes up to seven glasses of wine a day for the men and two glasses for the women; the wine is usually drunk with meals. The doctors concluded: "No subject could be considered a heavy drinker."

The characteristics of a normal Greek villager's diet were assumed to be a high proportion of unsaturated fat (mainly olive oil) to saturated fat, a moderate alcohol intake, a high consumption of peas, beans, bread, potatoes and vegtables; and a low consumption of meat and milk, although cheese and yoghurt are eaten regularly. The high consumption of vegetables, fresh fruits and bread ensured a liberal intake of betacarotene, vitamin C and vitamin E, with those minerals that are accepted as being an important part of a wholesome diet.

The survey showed that the overall mortality, as well as that from cardiac disease, of the elderly Greek villager was reduced by following the Mediterranean diet. The closer the nutritional intake of any individual to that of the traditional diet, the longer he or she was likely to survive. No particular component of the diet seemed to be a crucial factor in achieving longevity but each of the nutritionally important ingredients seemed to form part of a combined effect.

Everybody should enjoy their turkey this Christmas, and even their beef provided that it is offal-free, but they should also take plenty of bread, green vegetables, tomatoes and onions, salads soaked in olive oil, several glasses of wine, additional vitamin C, E, betacarotene and, perhaps, a little garlic.

DR THOMAS STUTTAFORD

Save up to 30% on your home insurance.

0800 282820

Guardian Direct

South Korea holds former President over 1979 coup

BY PEREGRINE HODSON

CHUN DOO HWAN, the former South Korean President, was arrested yesterday for his role in a 1979 coup that was followed by the most violent crackdown in the country's history.

Mr Chun, 64, became the second former President to be detained for alleged misconduct. His immediate successor, Roh Tae Woo, was arrested 19 days ago on corruption charges.

Supporters of Mr Ghun scuffled with police after thousands of officers surrounded his home in Hapchon, 200 miles south of Seoul, before he was taken to a prison outside the capital where demonstrators gathered, some carrying placards that read "Execute the murderer".

Mr Chun has denied most of the charges against him. Under South Korean law, anyone who is found guilty of organising a military coup faces the death penalty. On Saturday he appeared on television and dismissed the mutiny and pro-democracy demonstrations that ensued as "all in the past".

He also said that Kim Young Sam, the current President, was bringing the case for his own political advantage. Mr Chun declared that he would not co-operate with any investigation, since "the case has already been concluded by prosecutors", referring to an earlier investigation after which it was decided not to charge him or Mr Roh to "avoid national instability".

Prosecutors have apparently gained evidence of Mr Chun's participation in the coup from their interrogation of Mr Roh who appeared on television last month before his arrest and tearfully confessed to his part in a £193 million slush fund scandal. The two men led a coup in December 1979, six weeks after the assassination of the President, Park Chun Hee.

In an attempt to distance himself from previous tarnished administrations, Mr Kim has enacted a law to investigate the 1979 mutiny and the crushing of a pro-democracy uprising in May 1980 in Kwangju where, according to government figures, 200 people were killed in riots, although unofficial sources put the death toll at 2,000.

Mr Chun, a retired general, will be interrogated about his role in the Kwangju massacre. His arrest is the latest move in a power struggle which has been described as a "political civil war".



Chun Doo Hwan after his arrest by South Korean officials in Hapchon yesterday over the 1979 coup

Assassin of Rabin implicates a guard

FROM CHRISTOPHER WALKER IN JERUSALEM

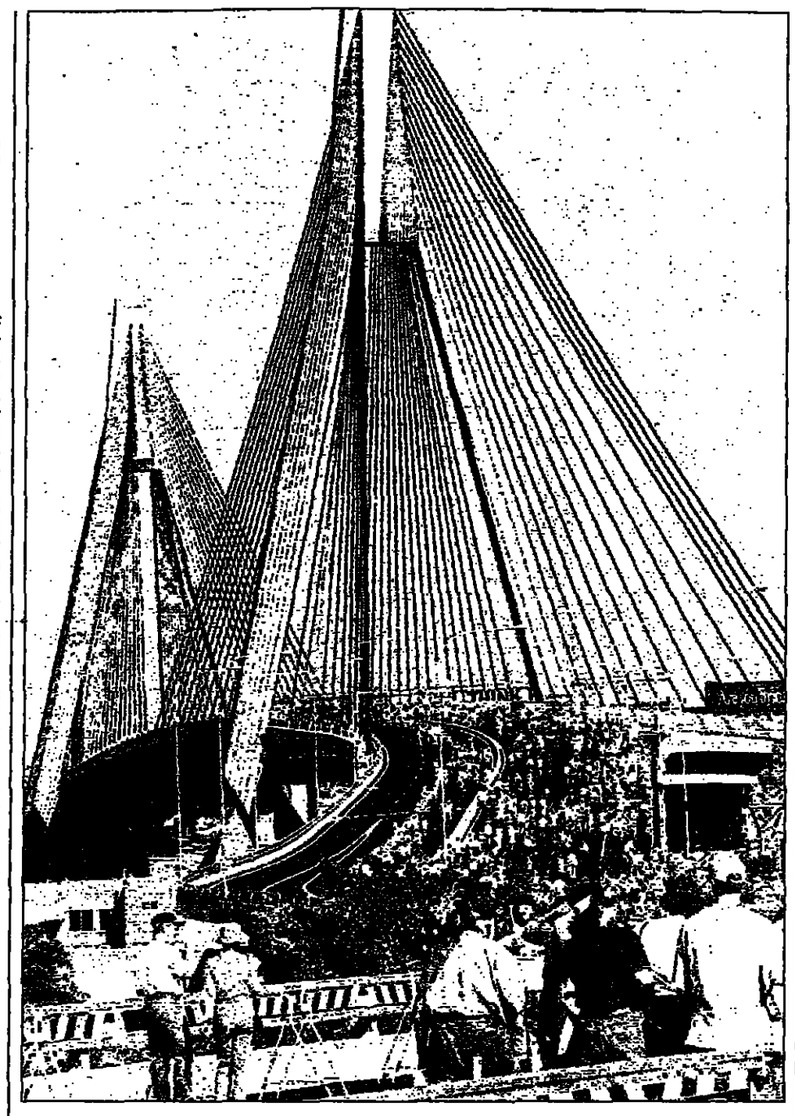
THE mystery surrounding the assassination of Yitzhak Rabin deepened yesterday when his self-confessed killer told a judge he had information "that would turn the country upside down" and suggested that one of the Prime Minister's bodyguards might have been part of the plot.

The intervention by Yigal Amir, 25, a Jewish right-wing militant, came as the inquiry commission into the killing on November 4, whose mainly secret proceedings have spawned a mass of conspiracy theories, was starting its third week of hearings.

Public doubt about the picture of the murder that has emerged centres round either a belief that the Shin Bet internal security service had a hand, or if not, disbelief that such a hallowed institution could have been so incompetent as to allow Rabin to be shot at point-blank range.

Yesterday's bizarre revelations emerged when Mr Amir appeared in court to hear police demand that his detention without charge be extended beyond the 30-day maximum. A police official added to the national speculation when he told Judge Dan Arbel that the investigation had now taken a "new direction" based on secret information that could not be disclosed.

Last night three Jewish extremists were charged with sedition after allegedly calling for the overthrow of the Rabin Government. It was the first time that this section of the Israeli criminal code has been used against a Jew since the country was founded in 1948.



More than 65,000 people walk across the Glebe Island Bridge which was opened in Sydney yesterday. The 2,650ft-long structure over the harbour is the longest cable-stayed bridge in Australia, and will be on the route of the marathons in the 2000 Olympic games. The bridge has been nicknamed "Madonna's bra" after the pop singer's conical stage garments. The roads authority said that the bridge, which links the city and the heavily populated western suburbs, would carry 100,000 vehicles a day, bypassing a narrow structure that causes enormous traffic jams. *(AFP)*

Sydney 'bra' bridge opens

NEWS IN BRIEF

Mandela 'to dismiss wife's ally'

Johannesburg: President Mandela will this week recommend the dismissal of Major-General Bantu Holomisa, Deputy Minister for Environmental Affairs and ally of his estranged wife, on disciplinary charges, newspapers reported (Inigo Gilmore writes).

Mr Mandela is said to be furious about statements made by the ex-homeland ruler which claimed intelligence services and the African National Congress were colluding to oust him.

Still in power

Taipei: Taiwan's ruling Nationalist Party clung to a thin parliamentary majority, winning 85 seats in the 164-seat Legislative Yuan, down from the 92 it held, final results showed. *(Reuter)*

Press victim

Algiers: The bodies of Hamid Mahiout, 45, a journalist on the independent *Liberté* daily, and his driver were found in a suburb, the Algerian Government said. They were stabbed to death. *(Reuter)*

Girl's ordeal

Sydney: A girl, 11, who survived a murder rampage in the Australian city of Brisbane, was in critical condition after lying injured among the decomposing bodies of her family for five days. *(AFP)*

Anglers lost

Moscow: Helicopters and icebreakers were searching for six Russian anglers who have been adrift on an icefloe 500 miles north of the capital for four days, the Emergencies Ministry said. *(Reuter)*

Tour of China gives Castro a lesson in market reforms

FROM JAMES PRINGLE IN PEKING

PRESIDENT CASTRO of Cuba visited Mao Tse-tung's monolithic mausoleum in Tiananmen Square at the weekend. He saluted a white marble statue of the Great Helmsman who once called American imperialism a "paper tiger".

While Señor Castro has been remembering history this week, the Chinese have been forgetting it — failing to recall the 30 years when Havana stood with Moscow against Peking. The Cuban leader's current trip would "further promote bilateral friendly co-operation, which has existed between the two nations since diplomatic links were made in 1960". *China Daily* reported, with a certain amnesia about an intervening three decades of virtual non-contact. It is, after all, the Cuban dictator's first visit to the Middle Kingdom.

While here, besides seeing the Forbidden City and Great Wall, aspects of China's imperial and self-enclosed past, he will view showcases of Peking's new opening: the trumpeted "socialism with Chinese characteristics".

This week, the ageing Cuban leader is touring China to witness the market reforms brought in by Mao's successor, the now ailing Deng Xiaoping. The reforms will hurt Cuba too: three agreements which Señor Castro signed stipulated that, instead of barter trade, the two countries will now deal in cold cash, sources say.

Trapped Tigers make last stand in Jaffna

FROM CHRISTOPHER THOMAS IN COLOMBO

THE Tamil Tigers were making their last stand last night in Jaffna city, their collapsing capital in northern Sri Lanka, in a suicidal battle against troops with tanks and mortars.

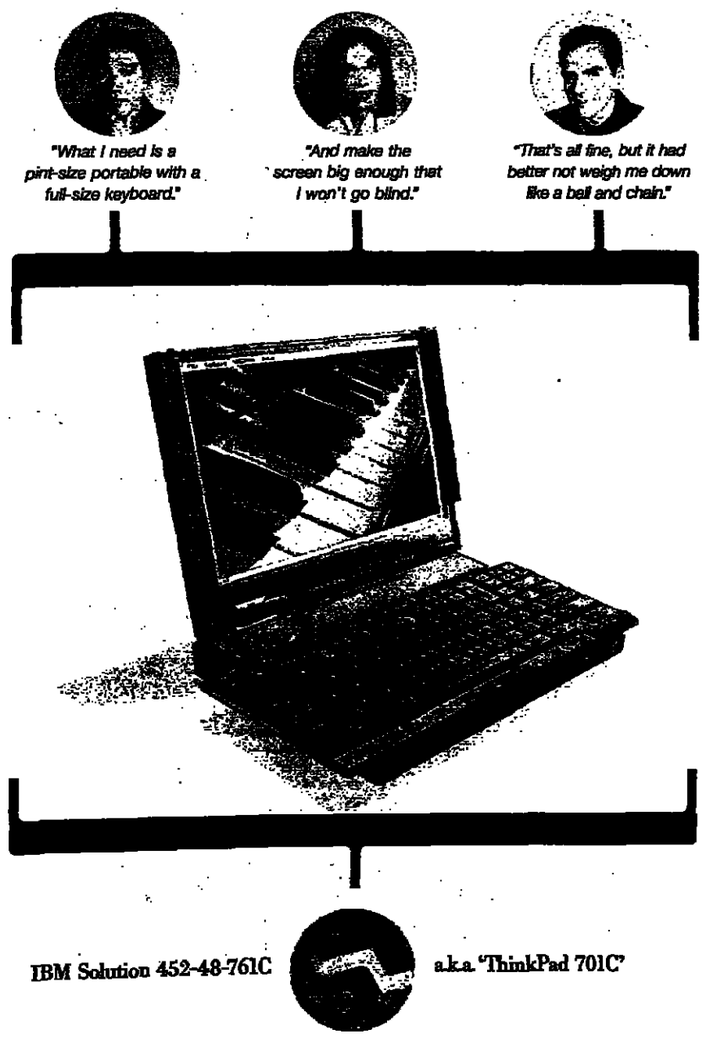
The rebels, driven from the old Dutch fort, are trapped in a warren of streets and abandoned houses in the town centre. The guerrillas have held off the armed forces for two weeks with landmines and booby-traps. They fought from concrete bunkers, canals and drains, and laid traps in almost every house.

"Terrorists within the city centre will have to surrender or commit suicide," the Defence Ministry said. It admitted that the advance was slow and difficult. It spoke of Tigers' bodies lying everywhere, untouched in case they were booby-trapped. About 400 civilians had been found in St Mary's Church and the seminary.

At least 250,000 Jaffna Tamils, and perhaps as many as 400,000, have been displaced by fighting. The Government appears to have done a commendable job feeding and sheltering them, avoiding what could have become a humanitarian catastrophe. Civilian casualties are few.

The Tigers' support comes from the landless and dispossessed and shows no sign of waning. "Because of this battle the people are with the Tigers," Father Joseph Mary, a Jesuit in the eastern city of Batticaloa, said. "Support for the Tigers has increased."

The Tigers' biggest need is for recruits. Tamil boys of 14 and above are being put into uniform, and issued with a rifle and two phials of cyanide. "One day they are in school, the next they are missing," Father Joseph said. "They have run away to war."



Few computers in the world can be all things to all people. But one notebook just might be. The new IBM ThinkPad 701C. With its ingenious expanding TrackWrite keyboard and extra large 10.4 inch colour screen, this compact 2.0kg notebook delivers awesome power and performance with truly unrivalled portability. An inspired paradox that is small when you carry it, and big when you work with it.

• TrackWrite expanding keyboard • 10.4" black matrix TFT colour screen • 486 DX4/75MHz or DX2/66MHz processor • Up to 720MB* hard drive • Infrared file transfer • SoundBlaster sound support • 3-year warranty • Weight: 2.0kg* • Integrated speaker/microphone

FOR DETAILS ON THINKPAD MOBILE PCs, CALL 0345 72 72 72.

IBM

*Based on capacity. **1MB=million bytes. Accessible capacity varies. †Excludes battery (1-year warranty on battery). Excludes external disk drive. Weight may vary. IBM Home Page: Internet at http://www.ibm.com



get the **message**
stay in touch

Christmas...a time for giving, a time for drawing closer together.

And what better way to show how much you care than by giving a gift that says "I want to be near you, even when we can't be together."

With BT's EasyReach Messaging Service, your loved ones can stay in touch with you wherever you are. To send a message you simply call the unique paging number and our bureau will take the message which is then transmitted to the paging screen in seconds.

There's no connection fee, no subscription or rental and calls to the pager are paid for by the caller.*

EasyReach message pagers available from Staples, BT Communication Centres, BT Shops, branches of Dixons, Currys Superstores, The Link and Carphone Warehouse.

For more information or to order, please call Freefone 0800 313000.

*Message pagers are available from £ Premium Cello pager priced at £119

BT EasyRe

France's strikers have fragile economy reeling

FROM BEN MACINTYRE IN PARIS

THE strikers who are bringing France to its knees have many and varied grievances, but the fear they have in common is that irreparable damage is being done by the Government of Alain Juppé to France's cherished welfare benefits.

The rail workers are bitterly opposed to a plan to overhaul the state-owned railway company: postal employees are defending their pension plans; utility workers fear deregulation and job losses; students want more money for teachers and classrooms; and telecommunications employees are outraged at the prospect of partial privatisation.

However, the different resentments have crystallised around plans to overhaul the welfare system, which unions believe will reduce coveted social security benefits and lead to job losses.

With the protests starting to merge into one, observers say the chaos is fast approaching the situation in May 1968, when students and workers brought much of France to a shuddering stop. "Discontent will only get worse. In Paris more than half of all employees have stopped work," said Marc Blondel, head of the powerful Force Ouvrière union.

The already fragile French economy has been further weakened by the strikes. After more than a week spent struggling to get to and from work, Parisians stayed away from shops in droves last weekend, badly denting pre-Christmas sales. Large shops in the capital reported half the normal receipts for this time of year. They will be allowed to open on Sundays for the rest of the month in an attempt to recoup losses.

Industries, deprived of workers and raw materials by the transport strike, have begun sending employees home, while restaurants and cafés reported a fraction of the usual weekend turnover. Half the small and medium-sized businesses in Paris have been "economically blocked", according to the Government, which has said that many jobs may be lost due to the strike.

"The consequences for weakened businesses could be catastrophic," said Franck Borotra, the Industry Minister. The consequences may be equally dire for the Government, which has promised to reduce France's vast deficit in order to meet the criteria for European monetary union. The strikes are certain to affect economic growth in France, which may in turn necessitate more radical austerity measures by the Government, and thus prompt further strikes.

M Juppé has gambled that public sentiment will turn against the strikers in the run-up to Christmas, but it is a measure of the Government's profound unpopularity that support for the strike remains high despite the widespread disruption.

A poll published over the weekend showed 62 per cent of respondents in favour of the strikes, while only 30 per cent oppose them. President Chirac has said nothing in public about the dispute and last Friday left the country for a weekend summit with the leaders of other French-speaking nations in Benin.

The ruling coalition has called for counter-demonstrations against the strikers, prompting accusations from opposition Socialists that the Government is seeking to "politicise" an inflamed situation.

A group of 3,000 angry commuters staged a demonstration in Paris on Saturday to demand that the public sector strikers go back to work. Organisers said the protest was sparsely attended for one reason: demonstrators could not get into the city because of the transport strike.

☐ **Rome:** Italian transport workers are to go on strike next week, trade union sources said yesterday.

Separate stoppages are to be held by rail workers over a regionalisation plan due to come into effect on January 1, and by air traffic controllers on domestic and international routes over staffing levels and a "delay" by the Government in implementing a deal on working conditions. *(AFP)*

William Rees-Mogg, page 18
Leading article, page 19



Striking French electricity workers wave red flags after taking over a distribution station in Brest



Alain Juppé, the French Prime Minister, in Paris yesterday at the Matignon, his official residence, after calling a Cabinet meeting over the wave of mass strikes

Free boat rides on Seine to beat rush-hour chaos

BY BEN MACINTYRE

A CONVOY of private buses and a flotilla of river boats will help Paris commuters face another week of strike chaos, the French Government announced yesterday.

Bernard Pons, the Transport Minister, said the buses and boats were expected to carry about 100,000 rush-hour passengers between them at a cost of Fr3 million (£400,000) a day. The army is reported to be standing by to provide trucks. M Pons admitted that the emergency measures were "modest compared to the scale of the problems".

With the rail strike now in its eleventh day and set to continue indefinitely, all provincial and suburban trains are standing idle and the Paris Metro is expected to remain closed. The situation will worsen tomorrow when taxi drivers join a union protest in Paris. Air travel is expected to be hit this week by strikes by Air France and Air Inter.

Just 60 per cent of Eurostar trains were operating between London and Paris yesterday and a company spokesman said the service could shut if striking electricity workers disrupt rail signals.

Clinton bickers with EU over Bosnia aid bill

FROM GEORGE BROCK IN MADRID AND ROGER BOYES IN BONN

DIFFERENCES over how America and Europe should split the bill for reconstructing Bosnia-Herzegovina emerged yesterday when President Clinton met EU leaders to sign an agreement designed to strengthen transatlantic links on issues ranging from the Middle East to the Internet.

Before the Dayton agreement on Bosnia is even signed, governments on both sides of the Atlantic are wrangling over who picks up how much of the estimated $6 billion (£3.9 billion) bill for rebuilding houses, roads and bridges wrecked by civil war.

European leaders suggested to the President that the cost be divided three ways: EU states and America would pay a third each and other countries, such as Japan and the richer Islamic states, would contribute another third.

President Clinton told the EU's representatives — Felipe González, the Spanish Prime Minister, and Jacques Santer, the European Commission President — that he was spending a lot of "political capital" persuading Congress to approve the dispatch of 20,000 American troops. It would not agree to America meeting more than 20 per cent of reconstruction spending.

The debate over burden-sharing took place against an ominous background of threats to the Dayton accord. The French Government withdrew a complaint from General Jean-René Bachelet, the commander of the French troops in Sarajevo, that the agreement is unworkable.

Asked whether the Dayton agreement was in danger, President Clinton said: "No, I don't think that the treaty is in trouble and, no, I don't think it should be renegotiated." The President also gave an upbeat message when he flew to Baumholder, Germany, to meet American troops before they leave for Bosnia.

He told the soldiers that they would not be serving under the same handicaps as the lightly armed UN peacekeepers. "If you are threatened with attack, you may respond immediately and with decisive force," the President said. "Everyone should know that when America comes to help make the peace, America will still look after its own."

However, the mood of the First Armoured Division, — known as the Old Ironsides — has been, and remains, sour. A banner held up on the fringes of the uniformed crowd announced: "President Clinton, you have stolen our Christmas!"

The American troops — who, like the first British soldiers, will begin to move this week — have yet to be convinced. They have heard for three years grim predictions about the Balkan quagmire and the determination of the White House that not a single American soldier will be committed to Bosnia. Now they are packing their bags.

Sarajevo: General Ratko Mladic, the Bosnian Serb military leader who has been indicted by the international court for war crimes, denounced the US-brokered peace plan at the weekend, saying it had to be renegotiated (Stacy Sullivan writes). Appearing in the Serb-held Sarajevo suburb of Ilijas during an anti-Dayton protest, he said his people could not live under the "butchers' rule".

The President mingled with the troops, shaking hands, slapping shoulders and saying: "I'm proud of you". Later, he and his wife Hillary ate turkey with the troops in the canteen.

Mr Clinton emphasised that he was relying on President Milosevic of Serbia to ensure the Dayton agreement was not unpicked by Bosnian Serb leaders such as General Ratko Mladic. "We fully expect that President Milosevic will take appropriate steps to ensure that this treaty is honoured as written," he said.

President Clinton yesterday ordered the deployment of an advance contingent of 700 American troops to Bosnia as part of the Nato peacekeeping force to do "preparatory work".

Leading article, page 19

US divided over new Nato chief

FROM TOM RHODES IN WASHINGTON

JAVIER SOLANA, the Nato Secretary-General-designate, yesterday drew praise and criticism from the United States as his appointment sparked an immediate rift between the Clinton Administration and its Republican opponents in Congress.

President Clinton, before returning to Washington from Madrid, described the Spanish Foreign Minister as "one of Europe's great leaders", while a letter to the White House from six leading Republicans criticised the appointment of a man at odds with US policy in Europe.

The senators complained that an anti-Nato record undermined his position at a time when America was sending 20,000 troops to Bosnia on an alliance mission. The letter said Spain was not a full member of Nato's military wing and that its Socialist Government had criticised America's trade embargo against Cuba.

Senator Robert Dole, the Majority Leader, and Senator Jesse Helms, chairman of the foreign relations committee, joined colleagues in describing Señor Solana as "a dedicated Socialist with an extensive public record in opposition to Nato ... At this moment, with troops poised to enter Bosnia," stated the letter, "Nato can ill afford to be led by a candidate whose credentials are in question."

The Clinton Administration actively supported the Spaniard's candidacy and Warren Christopher, the Secretary of State, said that he and Mr Clinton had confidence in Señor Solana's strength and leadership abilities.

Missionary bishop canonised

Rome: The Pope canonised yesterday a French bishop who became a priest after the French Revolution and founded an order that now has missionaries in 68 countries.

Charles Joseph Eugène de Mazenod, founder of the Oblates of Mary Immaculate, was hailed by the Pope as "a hero of faith, hope and charity" at the Vatican ceremony at which he was made a saint.

Mazenod, born in 1782 into a family of minor nobility, moved to Italy during the Revolution and, after his return to France in 1802, was ordained priest in 1811. He worked with prisoners and young people and the helpers he gathered round himself were recognised as a religious congregation (order) in 1826.

☐ **Churches appeal:** The Pope called on Roman Catholics yesterday for help in building 50 more churches in the suburbs of Rome for the year 2000, to show that the city has a "Christian heart". Rome already has nearly 1,000 churches. *(Reuter)*

Midland Bank plc is regulated by the Personal Investment Authority and only advises on its own life assurance, pensions and unit trusts. References to taxation are based on our understanding of current legislation and tax practice. Future changes in legislation, tax levels and practice could affect the details quoted. AW/31

MIDLAND



Are you expecting the State to pay for your child's university education?

At present, the maximum grant for students going to university is £1,885 per year. According to Personal Finance magazine, this is still £2,000 short of what the average student needs. That leaves a shortfall of £6,000 over a three year course, even if the student gets a maximum grant – and grants are due to be cut by a further 10% in 1997. All of this puts more and more pressure on parents to finance their children's further education. In response, Midland has developed a Children's Investment Plan, which you can use to generate a regular income for your child or to produce a lump sum. Essentially a unit trust-linked investment, it has several advantages. It not only has the potential to outperform a deposit account, but is also far more tax-efficient because it can take advantage of your child's £3,525 annual income tax allowance – a considerable benefit. Please note: your investment can go down as well as up and may fall below the amount originally invested.

The Listening Bank

Member HSBC Group

For more information, complete and return the coupon to: Midland Personal Financial Services, FREEPOST, Southampton SO15 1XF, or to arrange an appointment with a Midland Personal Financial Planning Manager, call us on 0800 65 65 65

Name Address

Town County

Postcode Telephone TIMES 4/12

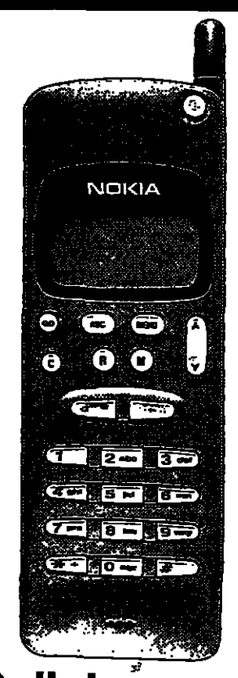
People in developing countries depend on animals. SPANA helps them.

Society for the Protection of Animals Abroad
15 Buckingham Gate
London
SW1 6LB
Reg Charity 209015

SPANA PROTECTS ANIMALS ABROAD

Simply the best value this Christmas.

FREE LIFETIME EXTENDED WARRANTY *



CELLPHONES DIRECT CHRISTMAS PACKAGE NOKIA 2010 £19.99 INC.VAT PLUS FREE IN-CAR ADAPTOR FREE LEATHER CASE TOGETHER WORTH OVER £40

FREE CONNECTION TO YOUPHONE PERSONAL WORLD WITH NO TARIFF INCREASES GUARANTEED FOR LIFE

Monthly Rental	£17.63 (£15+VAT)
Peak Rate Calls UK Wide	42p per min (35p+VAT)
Off Peak Calls	18p per min (15p+VAT)

Peak times 7.00-19.00 Mon to Fri. Itemised billings charged at £1.77 inc VAT per month. Line rental (debited monthly in advance) and airtime charges will be debited to your nominated credit/charge or Delta card. Calls charged in units of 30 seconds after the first minute. Overseas access £5.88 (inc VAT) for 28 days.

£35 CASH BACK ON YOUR AIRTIME BILLS †

† Cash Back offer ends December 31st 1995

NOKIA GSM MODEL 2010.
◆ 99 name/number memory ◆ 100 mins talk-time ◆ 30 hr stand-by-time ◆ Complete with standard battery and fast travel charger ◆ Weight approx 320g

GUARANTEED PEACE OF MIND
Your phone is covered by our 1 days no quibble money back promise

Cellphones Direct

ORDER NOW FOR FREE LINE RENTAL UNTIL DECEMBER 31ST 1995 AND FREE DELIVERY IN 4 WORKINGDAYS

FREEPHONE 0500 000 888
CREDIT CARD ORDERING HOTLINE WEEKDAYS 9AM TO 9PM WEEKENDS 9AM TO 5PM

PLEASE HAVE YOUR CREDIT CARD AND THIS ADVERTISEMENT HANDY WHEN YOU CALL AND QUOTE REF 2717
(SORRY WE ARE UNABLE TO ACCEPT SWITCH CARDS)

Offer subject to status and a standard airtime contract for each phone with Cellphones Direct Ltd 185 Lower Richmond Road, Richmond-upon-Thames TW9 4LN
* Full written details and terms and conditions of this offer are available on request. © Copyright. Registered No. 2995222.

هكذا من الاصل

President signs new transatlantic pact with EU to underline common destiny

Clinton pledges to build on 50-year ties with Europe

BY GEORGE BROCK IN MADRID AND OUR FOREIGN STAFF

THE United States and the European Union signed a new transatlantic pact yesterday to guide their relationship into the next century.

President Clinton promised that his country would remain as closely tied to Europe as it had been during half a century of Cold War. "Today we are moving beyond talk to action," he said after signing the accord with Felipe González, the Spanish Prime Minister, whose country holds the EU's rotating presidency, and Jacques Santer, the President of the European Commission.

"Our destiny in America is still linked to Europe," Mr Clinton said. Mr Santer responded: "It is an historic moment for transatlantic relations. We will lead by example." Señor González said: "The aim is to show a clear will to act together in the pursuit of common goals."

President Clinton also said the accord "creates a transatlantic marketplace in which we continue to progressively reduce the barriers to trade, commerce and investment".

French diplomats made little secret of their view that the agreement consists mostly of empty promises. It was "a lot of verbiage and some absolutely grotesque notions", one senior diplomat said.

The agenda promises closer co-operation in developing democracy across the world, fighting crime, ecological threats and disease, a further opening of world trade and closer educational links between European and American scholars and students.

The most ambitious segment of the agreement promises closer and stronger links between American law enforcement agencies and the fledgeling crime-fighting organisations of the EU. The FBI and Drug Enforcement Administration are committed to closer exchanges of personnel, scientific discoveries and intelligence with the EU's Europol and the European Drugs Unit. Extradition laws and procedures will be tightened in pursuit of a "nowhere to hide" policy.

The success of these initiatives rests in the hands of national governments in the Union, which still control access to criminal intelligence and the law-making powers on which action against organised crime depends.

The agreement also commits governments to studying how to reduce or eliminate barriers still hampering the vast volume of trade across the Atlantic. French resistance removed any mention of a possible "transatlantic free trade area" which has been promoted by a number of politicians, including Malcolm Rifkind, the Foreign Secretary.

Transatlantic links will now be stepped up through a structured dialogue between business leaders, educational exchanges and working groups assigned to turning the woolier statements into concrete joint actions. "The agreement marks a clear effort to act together for common objectives: democracy, the defence of human rights, commerce and the common struggle against new forms of crime such as terrorism and drug trafficking," Señor González said last night. He added that the agreement could be expanded to include countries such as Canada, Norway and Iceland.

Canada, a leading advocate of transatlantic free trade, had been particularly concerned about being sidelined from the deepening ties between its neighbour and the EU and had unsuccessfully lobbied to be mentioned in yesterday's statement.

The Commission is due to present proposals on a new economic co-operation agreement with Canada during the first six months of next year. Officials involved in negotiating the accord said that it represented an effort to turn American economic attention back towards Europe after a period of concentration on emerging markets in Asia and Latin America.

Javier Solana, the Spanish Foreign Minister who is to be the new Nato Secretary-General, wrote in the weekend edition of *The International Herald Tribune* that he hoped some of the items in the agreement's action plan, such as implementing the Balkan peace accord and helping Russia and the former Soviet states to consolidate democracy and economic reforms, would "catch our citizens' imagination".

Letters, page 19



Johannesburg: US Vice-President Al Gore, above, arrives in South Africa today to consolidate expanding trade relations.

The United States has outstripped European nations as South Africa's biggest trading partner and Pretoria hopes to negotiate further access to American markets, particularly for agricultural products.

Last year bilateral trade amounted to $4.7 billion (£3.07 billion) but America took the lion's share. America regards South Africa as one of the top ten emerging markets, but investors remain cautious over security matters. *(Reuter)*



President Clinton with Felipe González in Madrid yesterday after they signed the transatlantic agreement to promote trade and investment

Home win for 'peacemaker in chief'

*Bill Clinton's trip to Europe changed politics in Ulster. It also transformed his stature from a domestic to a foreign-policy President, writes **Martin Fletcher**, who was among journalists travelling with him*

Had the engines of Air Force One failed as President Clinton flew home from his five-day European trip last night, the Boeing 747 would have been kept aloft by euphoria alone.

This was a journey nearly cancelled by America's budget crisis. Congressional opposition to deploying troops in Bosnia-Herzegovina then forced the White House to truncate the visit, but it proved the most successful Mr Clinton has yet made.

The imminence of his trip was sufficient to break the deadlock over the decommissioning of IRA weapons. John Major and John Bruton, the Irish Prime Minister, unveiled their "twin-track" compromise as Mr Clinton was heading for Andrews air force base last Tuesday for his flight to London. Having helped to revive the peace process, the President then gave it an enormous shove in the right direction.

His day in London was one of pomp and pageantry — wreath-laying at Westminster Abbey, an address to Parliament in the ornate Royal Gallery, tea at Buckingham Palace, a Downing Street dinner. His day in Northern Ireland was one of such passion that even the most world-weary members of the White House press corps confessed to being moved. Journalists often fail immediately to recognise the full significance of events they cover, but that was not true last Thursday. From the moment Mr Clinton was mobbed in both the Shankill and Falls Roads, it was clear that his presence was the catalyst for a display of popular will that has to change the calculations of local leaders.

Young and old, Catholic and Protestant, the people of Northern Ireland came in tens of thousands to greet the world's most powerful man in Londonderry and to see his symbolic lighting of the Belfast Christmas tree. In Dublin on Friday, the throng was so vast that those on the periphery were well beyond earshot of the giant public address system.

Mr Clinton loves to be loved. Nothing lifts him like adoring crowds, and he has seen few in America over the past three years. He plunged into these, and the Secret Service all but abandoned the unequal struggle to protect him. At every stop Mr Clinton preached reconciliation and urged support for "twin track" — preliminary all-party talks in tandem with an independent study of the arms decommissioning issue.

"Stand firm against terror," he beseeched. "Say to those who still would use violence for political objectives: 'You are the past, your day is over'." The people's roars of approval sent an unmistakable message.

They were demanding permanent peace. They were warning their politicians that they would frustrate that goal and cling to dogmas at their peril.

As Mr Clinton flew to Germany on Saturday, there were already sounds of ice cracking. Sinn Fein endorsed "twin track". Downing Street hinted that its insistence on the IRA beginning disarmament before all-party talks was negotiable. David Trimble's Ulster Unionists found more flexibility, leaving Ian Paisley's Democratic Unionists the only implacable opponents of "twin track". The trip not only transformed Northern Ireland's politics. It also completed Mr Clinton's transformation from domestic to foreign-policy President. He took office promising to reform healthcare and focus "laser-like" on the economy, but his proudest boasts now are of fostering peace in the Middle East, Bosnia, Haiti and Northern Ireland. Saturday's *New York Times* dubbed him "peacemaker in chief".

Does this help him at home? Mike McCurry, the White House press secretary, punched the air when he saw the British coverage of Mr Clinton's day in Northern Ireland. The American coverage was more muted but the television pictures will surely have bolstered his support among the 40 million Americans claiming Irish descent.

It is true that foreign-policy achievements alone do not win Presidents re-election, especially in the post-Cold War era. However, Mr Clinton has now shed a reputation for incompetence in international affairs and looks increasingly presidential as he struts the world stage.

Tomorrow the President will plunge back into his monumental battle with Congress over the budget and future role of the Government with his stature invaluably enhanced.

AMERICAS SUMMARY

Haiti gang chief talks of CIA link

Washington: The former head of a feared Haitian paramilitary group which has been accused of killings and torture said yesterday that he was a paid CIA agent during three years of military rule before America restored President Aristide to power *(Tom Rhodes writes)*.

Emmanuel Constant, leader of the Front for the Advancement and Progress of Haiti, who is in jail in Maryland on immigration charges, was speaking in a television interview. The statement followed a month of unsettled relations between Washington and Haiti, where peace, once touted as a model of how the Bosnia settlement will unfold, is deteriorating.

Trawlers waste vast fish catch

Los Angeles: Enough fish to provide 50 million meals were thrown back dead or dying into the seas from which they were trawled last year by the Alaskan fishing fleet, an official report says (Giles Whittell writes). In a process condemned by Alaska's Governor as wanton waste, hundreds of tons of fish were rejected, mainly because they were the wrong size for easy processing by factory trawlers.

Poles humble agony aunt

New York: America's grandest agony aunt, who infuriated Polish-Americans by referring to the Pope as "a Polack" during an interview with the *New Yorker* magazine, has apologised for her gaffe (Quentin Letts writes). Ann Landers said: "It is time to get out the wet noodle and give myself 40 lashes."

Gingrich takes back seat to lessen election damage

FROM TOM RHODES IN WASHINGTON

FACING withering criticism from Democrats and plummeting popularity in the polls, Newt Gingrich has decided to withdraw from the limelight as the face of America's Republican revolution.

During a closed meeting with colleagues on Capitol Hill last week, the House Speaker is said to have acknowledged that he had "thrown one too many interceptions" and planned to "sit on the bench for a while".

Although Mr Gingrich will still be considered the architect of the revolution, the party is considering various replacements as the voice for the Republican message, including John Kasich, the House budget committee chairman; Trent Lott, the Senate majority whip, and J.C. Watts, the Oklahoma congressman.

The decision has come at a time of mounting political pressure for Mr Gingrich a year after he was credited with a Republican takeover of the House of Representatives for the first time in 40 years. It also coincides with a Democratic campaign to demonise the Speaker as an evil Republican force in the run-up to next year's presidential campaign.

"He's been driving off a cliff and could quite easily damage our chances next year," said one senior Republican staffer on Capitol Hill yesterday. "If this were next October we'd probably lose the election. But it isn't and there is still a chance to change that."

Mr Gingrich has denied reports that he has decided to sideline himself, saying that he "meets with Republicans every day ... I'm here. That should be the only answer," he said. "Here I am, I'll let you decide."

Mr Kasich also rallied behind him yesterday, describing him as the "quarter-back" and "best messenger" for the party. But party leaders are said to have been fielding hundreds of calls in recent weeks asking for Mr Gingrich to tone down his language.



Gingrich: architect of Republican revolution

Publicly, at least, not one of the Republican freshmen is prepared to be named in pointing a finger at a politician who inspires a combination of intense loyalty and deep fear among colleagues. "I'm mad at him, but I can't have him mad at me," said one. "Some day this will all blow over, and he will still be the Speaker."

Last month Mr Gingrich complained that President Clinton had treated him shoddily on board Air Force One while flying to the funeral of Yitzhak Rabin, the assassinated Israeli Prime Minister.

Dozens of complaints flooded the Speaker's office complaining that his comments had trivialised the overall Republican message during critical talks with the White House over the partial shutdown of the American government.

His unpopularity ratings are currently as high as 65 per cent, fast approaching a level shared by Richard Nixon before his resignation over Watergate. This week he suffered a further blow when the Federal Election Commission charged that Gopac, the political organisation he led for years, had provided the congressman with more than $250,000 (£166,000) in hidden support for his re-election campaign in 1990.

FBI swoops in mission to halt Manhattan auction of moon rock

FROM QUENTIN LETTS IN NEW YORK

FBI AGENTS entered a Manhattan auction house and confiscated a small, uninspiring piece of stone that was being offered for sale. Phillips, the auctioneer, claimed that the exhibit, for which the seller wanted about $4,000 (£2,600), was a chunk of lunar rock. The FBI said that, if that was true, the moon rock belonged to the American State.

The rock was, so to speak, the star exhibit in a sale of scientific curiosities. The catalogue described it as "a sizeable, unique and unusual lunar rock specimen". It said that the rock had been given to its late owner, a Mr Trochelmann of Georgia, by a Nasa astronaut. The astronaut had been "a close friend".

Nasa, which has yet to confirm that the rock is genuine, said that all geological bounty from lunar expeditions belongs to the Government. An official noted that the Trochelmann rock is similar to a moon rock retrieved by the 1969 Apollo 12 mission that disappeared in the post in 1970 while en route from Nasa to a researcher in Los Angeles. A retired postal inspector who read about the Phillips auction had recalled the mystery of the missing lunar rock and alerted the Postal Investigative Service.

Mr Trochelmann's sons, Brian and Ron, who brought the rock to auction, answered charges of theft by saying that in the early days of lunar research Nasa guarded moon rock less jealously than it does today.

NEW IMPROVED SERVICE – SAME LOW PRICE

From just £29 the RAC covers you in any car.

Membership of the RAC still starts at just £29 – but now your basic cover offers even more benefits.

■ RAC Rescue covers you, not your car. So now you can call on us whenever you need fast roadside assistance, even when you're simply a passenger in someone else's car.

■ Roadside Rescue. In more than 8 out of 10 cases, our patrols can fix cars on the spot. Otherwise, they'll tow you to a nearby garage, free of charge.

■ Accident Service. A free courtesy car, free legal advice, plus we'll deal with your insurers.

■ Theft and Vandalism Cover. If your car's stolen or can't be driven because of vandalism, we'll get you home and recover your car, too.

■ Battery Assist. A new battery on the spot.

Whatever service you use, callouts and our labour are free – you only pay for parts.

You can also tailor your cover to meet your needs, with the option to take out Joint and Family Cover or add our 'At Home' service.

Don't wait until you break down. Find out how to join the RAC today.

PHONE FREE TODAY ON 0800 029 029 OR INTERNET http://www.rac.co.uk/

AND QUOTE SS1625/3/XX



YES – I want to join the RAC. Please tell me how I can join from just £29:

Mr/Mrs/Miss/Ms

Address

Postcode

Telephone

Send to: RAC Rescue, FREEPOST, Bristol BS38 7AU. (No stamp needed.)

*Rescue costs £29 if you pay by Continuous Credit Card Authority or Direct Debit. All prices include an enrolment fee. Phone lines open Monday – Friday 8am – 8pm, Saturday 9am – 5pm, Sunday 10am – 4pm.

ST0004/SS1625/3/XX

RAC IT SAYS YOU'VE ARRIVED

ARTS THE WEEK AHEAD



ICE SHOW

With music by David Essex, *Beauty and the Beast* goes on ice at the Albert Hall

OPENS: Tomorrow
REVIEW: Thursday



MUSIC

The Kronos bring their latest string quartets to the Festival Hall

CONCERT: Tomorrow
REVIEW: Thursday



OPERA

. . . while at Covent Garden Maria Ewing wields a mean dagger as Tosca

OPENS: Tomorrow
REVIEW: Thursday



BOOKS

A mammoth new biography of the author Tennessee Williams uncovers new material

IN THE SHOPS: Now
REVIEW: Thursday

Marcus Binney explains how London's Somerset House can become a stately pleasure dome again

Revenue out, capital gains

Three years ago, with a tremendous fanfare, Michael Heseltine announced that he was seeking imaginative new uses for London's finest Georgian public building, Somerset House. Yet today the great court off the Strand remains packed with cars, the buildings around are filled with Inland Revenue offices, and the magnificent 480ft terrace overlooking the river is empty and dead, except for the eastern end which serves as home to a cluster of Portacabins and the bicycles of King's College students.

There is just one gleam of hope. There is talk of a galaxy of private collections moving into the river wing, with pride of place in the river wing going to the Courtauld Galleries, which have so successfully occupied the Fine Rooms on the Strand side.

The need, though, is not just for more heritage uses, but for a whole new vision. The architect of Somerset House, Sir William Chambers, frustrated that George III would not build the magnificent royal palace he had designed, turned his energies to what was to be London's greatest public building since the Royal Naval Hospital at Greenwich. In the words of Lord North, the Prime Minister of the day, it was to be "an object of national splendour".

In recent years, the tendency has been to see Somerset House as a giant version of Burlington House in Piccadilly, where the Royal Academy is surrounded by learned institutions. But use by charities and educational bodies simply means more offices.

What is needed at Somerset House is a complete break from the limitations of 9am-to-5pm office use or, for that matter, 10am-6pm museum hours. There must be a reason for people to stroll into the great court in the evenings and see it like any other London square, with windows aglow.

The flanks of the great court originally consisted of rows of terrace houses for senior officials. Walk round to the side courtyards and you can see the extraordinary sight of the original front doors floating in space above the basement areas: the steps to the doors were taken away when the wings were converted into offices in the 19th century.

I believe the flanking wings of the great court should be converted into elegant "town house hotels" of the kind which flourish in Bath and Edinburgh. The conversion to offices has actually made this easier, for it introduced spinal corridors in place of repeating staircases, while preserving well-proportioned rooms. Good colour schemes and handsome furnishings would make them a most attractive, secluded place to stay. Nor do town house hotels always have to be expensive. In Edinburgh you can stay in a beautiful first or second-floor room in the New Town — with four-poster bed — for £55 to £65 a night.

> "Convert the flanking wings of the great court into hotels"

If Somerset House was in Paris, the great courtyard would long ago have been excavated to put the cars underground or to create a shopping mall. John Harris, the biographer of Chambers and a long-standing campaigner for the enlightened use of his masterpiece, advocates "a Conran-style brasserie to bring people into the court after the theatre". It could be largely underground: Somerset House has deep, well-lit double basements all the way round.

In the small sunken courts just inside the main entrance an open-air café has been established, while opposite, at a still deeper level, there is a glass-roofed restaurant.

The other abiding problem is that Somerset House is in a cul-de-sac. Only those with official business are likely to venture in. "Despite persistent efforts, the Government was never able to buy up the adjoining houses along the Strand," Harris says. "So the main front is no wider than the old Somerset House which stood on the site, and goes largely unnoticed by passers-by."

In the 18th century you could walk through Somerset House to the river. Chambers was forced to keep open Duchy Lane, a right-of-way from the Thames watergate up to the Strand, and created a walk as magnificent as anything imagined by Piranesi. Today no one sees or uses it, as the way is blocked from side to side by a huge Inland Revenue canteen.

Get the bulldozers to work and within weeks Londoners could enter Somerset House from the Embankment, under a glorious arched and colonaded bridge, walk up past the houses of the Commissioners of the Navy and enter the great court through another triumphal arch.

For years, the Revenue has been seen as the bogey, unwilling to move at any price from comfortable central offices with free car parking. The Revenue lawyers in the east wing are also conveniently close to the barristers of the Temple and the Strand Law Courts.

Today, Revenue staff are spread across a series of buildings in the Aldwych area. This is not just as a result of current building works in Somerset House: even when these are complete, there will not be enough space for all staff. "What the Revenue wants is for all its staff to be on one site. If alternative accommodation was available near by, we'd take it," I was told. The big question is whether the public and the cognoscenti will accept private uses for some of the buildings as a price for opening Somerset House up and making it an appealing place to walk through in the evenings and at weekends.

There has to be a case, given that the public sector has failed for so long, for allowing private investment in the process, providing funds to help the Revenue move. Edmund Burke, the great philosopher statesman whose reforms of government were the spur to the building of Somerset House, declared that the glorious courtyard "would render the metropolis of Great Britain famous throughout Europe". It could be so once again.



PETER TRIEVNOR

John Harris, who wants to see "a brasserie to bring people into the court after the theatre"

A big Ben in the making

Kate Bassett finds out what Ben Walden has in common with his new role in *The Glass Menagerie*

Ben Walden, the actor and offspring of the former MP Brian Walden's stormy second marriage, is fast becoming a star in his own right. At 26 Walden has already appeared in Channel 4's *Camomile Lawn*, made his West End debut in Peter Hall's *Separate Tables*, and won admirers as the young Martin Chuzzlewit in the BBC's mighty Dickens adaptation.

Now he is about to hit the West End as Tennessee Williams's autobiographical and father-abandoned hero, Tom, in *The Glass Menagerie*. Sam Mendes's potent production of Williams's memory play about family oppressiveness, youthful frustration and fragility is transferring, with Claire Skinner and Zoë Wanamaker, to the Comedy Theatre, from the Donmar Warehouse.

Walden, like a manic sprite with his upturned nose and slanting ice-blue eyes, identifies with his role. "I've always wanted to play this part," he says. "By a coincidence, too, Ben Chaplin [from whom Walden takes over the role] is one of my best mates from Guildhall." Walden left the drama school after a few weeks and headed for America. "Ben and I used to talk about how we wanted to play Tom," Walden remembers.

"I feel I have a lot in common with the character," he continues. Tom is desperate to be a writer, though trapped in a dead-end job supporting his vulnerable sister and domineering mother, a faded belle naggingly conventional about her children's futures. "The main thing about Tom," Walden says, "is the frantic desire to escape. I was always keen to get away from England. The way this country is rooted in traditions is crippling."

Artistically speaking, he sees a connection between his acting and Tom's writing. "The reason I act is that it gives you an opportunity to express all those things you want to say, but everyday life constrains. Like all actors," he adds more jauntily, "I've also had those times when your life feels as if it's going down the drain." If Tom had to work in a warehouse, Walden was distributing leaflets on Oxford Street at 20.

Reports of Walden's earlier years have suggested greater trauma. His father's marriage to Jane McKerron, the novelist and erstwhile *Tatler* racing correspondent, ended dramatically when Ben was five. Ben's stays at her friends' houses were followed by his being cared for by an affectionate working-class couple before being sent to a boarding school, which he hated, until he went to Westminster. Ben apparently did not see his father for years, except on television's *Weekend World*.



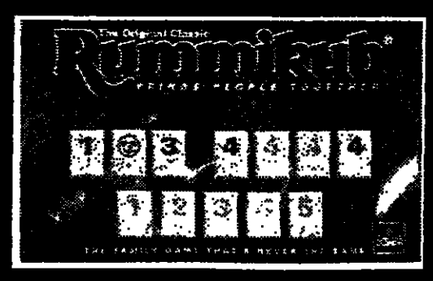
Walden: "The thing about Tom is his desire to escape"

Today Walden is annoyed with histrionic media rewrites of his story. "It always gets distorted into, 'His childhood was a tragedy'," Family relations seem to have improved. "Brian would have liked me to pursue a more academic career but never discouraged me from acting," Walden observes. "And now things are going well, he's quite keen on the whole idea."

McKerron, incidentally, worked for Joan Littlewood in her twenties. "She used to tell me how exciting theatre workshop was," her son recalls. "My father had no theatrical connections, although politics and acting are more similar than he'd like to admit."

● The Glass Menagerie *opens at the Comedy Theatre (0171-369 1731) on Thursday*

Goliath
The Original
Rummikub
2
THE GAME OF MANIPULATION, CUNNING, SKILL AND JUDGEMENT.
APART FROM THAT, ANYONE CAN PLAY.



ONE OF THE MOST POPULAR GAMES IN THE WORLD
BRINGS PEOPLE TOGETHER... FIND OUT WHY

THEATRE

Hidden banality

Swinging Canteen
King's Head, N1

THIS is not a show to write home about, and since it purports to be a morale-boosting entertainment for American troops in wartime London, it is nothing they would have wanted to write home about either, unless complaint was the tone.

We are supposed to be watching one of the all-girl bands popular in that period, and fronted in this imaginary case by a Hollywood star recently fired by MGM. Of course this background is just so much piffle, as are the sulks and bitchery that contrive to threaten the close harmony within the band. They are ruses intended to disguise the now banal format of OOSAA, One Old Song After Another. Since no particular singer, group or songwriter can be made to represent the essence of 1944, we are given a dozen or so numbers that happened to be around at the time: *Don't Fence Me In, Ac-cent-tchu-ate the Positive*, etc.

Most are sung with reasonable competence but without making you glad you made the journey to hear them. Some of the close harmony trios come near to the style of the Andrews Sisters, which is probably the intention, and reproduce the silly flicks of the hand that passed in those days for emphasis.

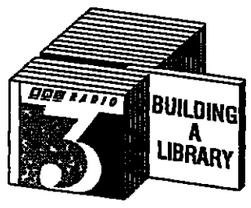
But the backstage storyettes, for which three off-Broadway writers pooled their talents, are drivel. Saxophone has stolen Percussion's boyfriend, Clarinet is the movie star's niece. I enjoyed the double-entendre of *The Deepest Shelter in Town*, sung knowingly by Jessica Martin, but I could have lived without it and I recommend that you do.

JEREMY KINGSTON

CLASSICAL CHOICE

A guide to the best available recordings, presented in conjunction with Radio 3

DVORAK'S STRING SEXTET
Reviewed by Stephen Dodgson



Dvořák's only string sextet was his first work to be premiered abroad: in Berlin in 1879. The huge success of his *Slavonic Dances* and Brahms's sturdy championing of him had done wonders for his confidence — and, whenever he was happy, Dvořák wrote chamber music.

The music's enormous charm is the too-exclusive focus of both the Viennese recordings on CD. In the case of the Vienna Octet, this emphasis is both fresh and attractive, and the 24-year-old recording bears up well, but not quite well enough to warrant Decca maintaining it at full price. The Vienna Sextet has the advantage of a modern recording on EMI, but a clinging sentiment cramps the expressive range.

Britain's Raphael Ensemble (Hyperion CDA 66308) provides a telling contrast, with a more open lyricism matched by a conspicuously thoughtful approach to colour. The players disappoint only when their seriousness gets the better of directness and simplicity. They are outshone for sheer exuberance by the Academy of St Martin-in-the-Fields Ensemble, (Chandos CHAN 8771), who brilliantly project the work's carefree spirit. The version loses marks, however, for omitting the first movement repeat.

Three Czech string quartets, each taking on board the two extra players required, are substantial rivals. Oldest is the Smetana, with a very broad tempo for the first movement and a rustic vigour in the Furiant, enjoyable but rather dense (Supraphon 11 1469-2). A thin recording removes nearly all the tonal bloom from the Talich recording (Calliope CAL 9217), but — for a student of Dvořák's score — there is the cooler compensation of notable clarity and directness.

However, the Panocha Quartet's is easily the best recording (Supraphon 11 1461-2; £13.50). The vivid playing exactly mirrors a consuming delight in the Sexter's unassuming genius.

● *Recommended recordings can be ordered from The Times CD Mail, 29 Pall Mall Deposit, Barlby Road, London W10 6BL (freephone 0500 418419; e-mail: bid@mail.bogo.co.uk)*
● *Next Saturday on Radio 3 (9am): Elisabeth Schwarzkopf*

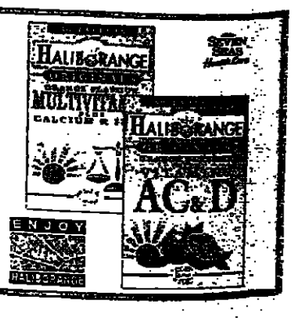
WANTED
GOOD AND FINE QUALITY, PRE 1960
VIOLINS, VIOLAS, CELLOS, BASSES
CONDITION UNIMPORTANT
LONG ESTABLISHED VIOLIN EXPERT WILL VISIT ANYWHERE IN THE U.K. TO BUY INSTRUMENTS FOR A VALUATION E.T.C.
PLEASE CONTACT MATTHEW. D. GREESPEERDT
BELMONT, HORSLEY, STROUD, GLOUCS GL6 0PR.
TELEPHONE 01453 835057

Royal National Theatre
Richard II
by William Shakespeare



Fiona Shaw -
"A bold riveting performance" Times
"Deborah Warner's magnificent new production... thrillingly intelligent" Sunday Times
"Unmissable" Time Out
Box Office 0171-928 2252
Cottesloe Theatre: Tonight, Tomorrow, Wed 6, Thurs 7, Fri 8 & Sat 9 Dec at 7.00pm & continuing.

Is your child's idea of good food lacking a few essentials?
Haliborange AC&D for children and Multivitamins plus calcium and iron for teenagers are specially formulated to help you ensure that youngsters stay healthy. For looks, growth and vitality, a Haliborange a day can help put back what your child's diet may lack.



هكذا من الاصل



THEATRE

Dickens returns to the Barbican as the RSC revives its staging of *A Christmas Carol*

OPENS: Thursday
REVIEW: Saturday



FILM

Desperately seeking a First Lady: Michael Douglas plays *The American President*

OPENS: Friday
REVIEW: Thursday



POP

East 17, full of the sounds of *Thunder*, play three nights at the Albert Hall

GIGS: Fri, Sat, Sun
REVIEW: Monday



DANCE

Twyla Tharp sets the Royal Ballet in motion to the music of Rossini

OPENS: Saturday
REVIEW: Monday

ARTS
TUESDAY TO FRIDAY
IN SECTION 2

Rare and beautiful sighting

POP

Stone Roses
Corn Exchange, Cambridge

MARK MAWSON



Giving nothing away: Ian Brown, lead singer of the Stone Roses, plays it cool in Cambridge on Friday night

THE Stone Roses are expert in the laws of supply and demand, where less means more. Theirs is not so much a career as a state of suspended animation. Two albums in a decade, a six-year lay-off since the last British tour: this is not what the Chancellor would call high productivity. Yet like some exotic bird, whose beauty is much extolled but rarely witnessed, the Stone Roses generate a level of extraordinarily passionate interest.

Pulling out of their starring role at this year's Glastonbury Festival, after guitarist John Squire injured his shoulder, only fuelled the faithful's ardour. It was not just mischievous irony which named the second album (released a year ago) *Second Coming*. There was tense, almost edgy anticipation among the fans. Would it happen? Would it be worth the wait? — questions prompted by the band's reputation for blistering live performances and obstinate unreliability.

There was a wave of relief as the introduction to *Breaking Into Heaven* echoed across a deserted stage which was cloaked in smoke and lit by shafts of ultra-violet light. As more smoke billowed forth, punctured by an array of coloured flashes, singer Ian Brown droned plaintively, "I want to be adored." He was, of course: this was love at first sight.

The drama of their arrival was followed by a roller-coaster ride of songs: the up-tempo *She Bangs the Drum*, the wistful *Waterfall*, the thundering drums and sweeping chorus of *Ten Storey Love Song*. These were pop songs for the rock generation, each powered by the bass of stalwart John (Mani) Mountfield and new drummer Robbie Maddix, and embellished by Squire's guitar, with its super-highway connections to the ghosts of Jimmy Hendrix and to the memory of Led Zeppelin.

The mood of benign pleasure was disrupted, however, by the anxious paranoia that started with *Good Times*. Huge lightbulbs swung hypnotically from the ceiling, while piercing beams dissected the air, creating a cat's cradle of light. Squire's guitar mimicked disrupted reason as it squealed and yelped. The tension dissipated, though, as the pyrotechnics meandered into self-indulgence.

The show faltered, and then struggled to regain its coherence, through an acoustic interlude which included the pub ballad *Your Star Will Shine*. Even when they reverted to the R&B rumble of *Love Spreads*, things were still on the slide. Not that they seemed to mind. Like their fellow Mancunians, Oasis, the Stone Roses are not products of a rock'n'roll charm school. On stage, they give nothing away. It is an hour before Brown, hidden behind sunglasses and a woollen hat, addresses the audience.

But then comes the glorious celebratory chorus of *Made Of Stone*. Squire, his hair falling across his face and his back arched, creates a cascade of notes and chords, pushing Brown's voice and the song to a wonderfully up-beat finale. It is a moment to cherish, a sighting of that rare bird: the Stone Roses in flight.

JOHN STREET

LONDON

OPERATIC SIZZLERS: The Royal Opera starts the month in grand style. Sharon Sweet, Nina Terentieva and Michael Sylvester head the cast for the first revival of Elijah Moshinsky's stylish **Aida** tonight (Daniele Gatti conducts). Tomorrow, Jeremy Sutcliffe brings back **Tosca**, with Maria Ewing and Giuseppe Giacomini
Royal Opera House, Covent Garden, WC2 (0171-304 4000) 7.30pm

THE SIMPLETON OF THE UNEXPECTED ISLES: Opening night for Shaw's peace, written when he was 78 and never publicly performed in London. Kate O'Mara and Raad Rawi play Prestissa and Priest of a perfect society, just as an angel announces the Day of Judgement. Sam Walters directs
Orange Tree, Clarence Street, Richmond (0181-940 3633) Tonight, 7.45pm. Until Jan 27.

BOSTON COLLECTIVE: Trendy American music takes over the Wigmore tonight. "The Master Musicians Collective of Boston" turn out to be a group of composers, providing premieres for seven pieces of chamber music. Happily some of our finest chamber musicians, the Alberni Quartet and the English Virtuosi, see to the performance side.
Wigmore Hall, Wigmore Street, W1 (0171-935 2141). Tonight, 7.30pm.

A CHRISTMAS CAROL: Revival of Ian Judge's popular but over-sweet production. Clive Francis plays Scrooge
Barbican, Silk Street, EC2 (0171-638 8891) Now previewing, 7.15pm; mat Wed, 2pm. Opens Thurs, 7pm

COMPANY: Sheila Gish and Adrian Lester in the cast of 14 for Sondheim's bittersweet musical on love, relationships and staying single.
Donmar Warehouse, Earlham Street, WC2 (0171-369 1732). Now previewing, 7.30pm. Opens Dec 13, 7pm.

THE COUNTRY GIRL: Strong and subtle performance by Conn Redgrave in Clifford Odets's drama of love, drink and marital protection. Kika Markham plays the supportive wife
Greenwich, Crooms Hill, SE10 (0181-858 7755). Tonight-Sat, 7.45pm, mat Sat, 2.30pm. Final week

DEAD FUNNY: Belinda Lang, Kevin McNally and Sam Kelly in Terry Johnson's sharply funny play about comics and some of their fans
Savoy, The Strand, WC2 (0171-836 8888) Mon-Fri, 8pm; Sat, 8.15pm; mats Wed, 2.30pm and Sat, 5pm.

HOBSON'S CHOICE: Final week for Leo McKern in the title role of Harold Brighouse's warm-hearted comedy. Nichola McAuliffe and Graham Turner (who are remaining in the cast) are excellent as daughter and son-in-law
Lyric, Shaftesbury Ave, W1 (0171-494 5045) Mon-Sat, 7.30pm, Sat, 3pm.

TODAY'S CHOICE

A daily guide to arts and entertainment compiled by Kris Anderson

ELSEWHERE

BATH: English Touring Opera arrives tonight with its acclaimed and hilarious version of Rossini's *The Barber of Seville*. Or, if your prefer, you could treat yourself tomorrow and Saturday to sweeping Victorian-era French romance and tragedy, with performances of Massenet's *Werther*
Theatre Royal, Sawclose (01225-448 844). Tonight-Sat, 7.30pm

EDINBURGH: A Christmas tour through Neverland continues for **Scottish Ballet**, reviving Graham Lustig's *Peter Pan*, with its distinctly Scottish score by Edward McGuire. *Great family entertainment.*
Festival, Nicolson Street (0131-529 6000) Tomorrow-Sat, 7.30pm; mats Thurs, 1.30 and Sat, 2pm. Next stop, Glasgow (0141-331 1234).

WOLVERHAMPTON: Last chance to see Sharon Maughan and Paul Shelley in Tom Stoppard's **Arcadia**: his witty intriguing comedy that is part historical romance, part detective story. Co-produced with the National Theatre.
Grand, Lichfield Street (01902 29212) Tue-Sat, 7.30pm, mat Wed and Sat, 2.30pm

HARROGATE: Last week of performances for Jose Rivera's **Marisol**, a strange-sounding magical realist fantasy in which a New York copy editor and her Guardian Angel fight to save the universe against a senile God. Could be terrific. It certainly is different. Andrew Manley directs
Harrogate, Oxford Street (01423-502 116). Tue-Sat, 7.45pm; mat Sat, 2.30pm.

LONDON GALLERIES

Barbican: Dora Carrington (0171-638 4141) . . **British Library Galleries**: John Keats 1795-1821: first editions, manuscripts, portraits, relics (0171-412 7111) . . **Hayward**: Art and Power: Europe under the dictators 1930-1945 (0171-928 3144) . . **National Gallery**: Paintings from National Trust Houses (0171-747 2885) . . **National Portrait Gallery**: Richard and Mana Cosway (0171-306 0055) . . **Royal Academy**: David Hockney Drawing Retrospective (0171-439 7438) . . **Serpentine**: William Turnbull: sculpture and paintings (0171-723 9072) . . **Tate**: Art Now 4: Mariusz Bafka; Dynasties: Paintings in Tudor and Jacobean England (0171-887 8000) . . **V & A**: Jain Art from India: Design Now: San Lorenzo Silversmiths Studio, Milan (0171-938 8500)

THEATRE GUIDE

Jeremy Kingston's assessment of theatre showing in London

■ House full, returns only
◪ Some seats available
☐ Seats at all prices

☐ **HYSTERIA**: Henry Goodman plays Freud, with Tim Potter as Salvador Dali, in Terry Johnson's surreal, double award-winner, directed by Phyllida Lloyd in the Royal Court Classics season
Duke of York, St Martin's Lane, WC2 (0171-836 5122) Mon-Sat, 7.30pm; mats Thurs and Sat, 3pm.

◪ **AN INSPECTOR CALLS**: Stephen Daldry's powerful production, with Nicholas Woodeson as the all-knowing inspector, and Edward Peel and Susan Engel as the pillars of society.
Garrick, Charing Cross Road, WC2 (0171-494 5085). Mon-Fri, 7.45pm; Sat, 8.15pm; mats Wed, 2.30pm, Sat, 5pm.

■ **A LITTLE NIGHT MUSIC**: Elegant and successful production by Sean Mathias of Sondheim's Swedish charmer. Judi Dench, Patricia Hodge, Sian Phillips and Lambert Wilson among the stars shining in the night
National (Olivier), South Bank, SE1 (0171-928 2252). Tonight-Wed, 7.15pm, mat Wed, 2pm.

☐ **KNIVES IN HENS**: Philip Howard's Traverse Theatre production of new David Harrower play, set in Scotland's distant past, "a powerful story of liberation through forbidden love"
Bush, Shepherds Bush Green, W12 (0181-743 3388) Mon-Sat, 8pm.

◪ **MACK AND MABEL**: Jerry Herman's musical set in early Hollywood. Fine songs, though a troublesome book. Starring Howard McGillin and a delightful Caroline O'Connor
Piccadilly, Denman Street, W1 (0171-369 1734) Mon-Sat, 7.45pm; mats Wed and Sat, 3pm

☐ **TAKING SIDES**: Enthralling drama by Ronald Harwood, based on the investigations of Furtwängler's alleged Nazi sympathies. Superb performance by Daniel Massey as the conductor, with Michael Pennington as his philistine accuser
Criterion, Piccadilly Circus, WC2 (0171-369 1747). Tonight-Sat, 7.30pm, mats Wed and Sat, 2.30pm. Final week.

☐ **THE WIND IN THE WILLOWS**: Jeremy Sinden plays Toad in the now annual return of the National Theatre production, directed this year by Jeremy Sams.
Old Vic, Waterloo Rd, SE1 (0171-928 6565) Mon-Sat, 7.30pm; mats Wed and Sat, 2.30pm; mats daily in week of Dec 26, 2.30pm

Ticket information supplied by Society of London Theatre.

CINEMA GUIDE

Geoff Brown's assessment of films in London and (where indicated with the symbol ◆) on release across the country

MY DARLING CLEMENTINE (U): John Ford's wonderful 1946 western about Wyatt Earp, with Henry Fonda, Linda Darnell and Victor Mature
Renoir (0171-837 8402)

◆ **THE SANTA CLAUSE** (U): Divorced dad becomes the new Santa. Broad family comedy with a human face, featuring Tim Allen. Director, John Pasquin.
MGM Chelsea (0171-352 5096) **Odeons: Kensington** (01426 914666) **Swiss Cottage** (01426 914098) **West End** (01426 915574) **UCI Whiteleys** (0171-792 3332)

SISTER MY SISTER (15): Modest chamber piece about a stifling French household. With Joely Richardson, Jodhi May and Julie Walters. Director, Nancy Meckler.
MGMs: Haymarket (0171-839 1527) **Tottenham Court Rd** (0171-636 6148)

CURRENT

◆ **GOLDENEYE** (12): Pierce Brosnan twinkles as the new James Bond. A rip-roaring thriller with a sense of humour, with Sean Bean. Director, Martin Campbell.
Barbican (0171-638 8891) **Clapham Picture House** (0171-498 3323) **MGMs: Baker Street** (0171-935 9772) **Chelsea** (0171-352 5096) **Fulham Road** (0171-370 2636) **Notting Hill Coronet** (0171-727 6705) **Odeons: Kensington** (01426 914666) **Leicester Square** (01426 915683) **Marble Arch** (01426 914501) **Swiss Cottage** (01426 914098) **UCI Whiteleys** (0171-792 3332)

LA HAINE (15): Powerful, angry drama about volatile youths on a Paris housing estate. Director, Mathieu Kassovitz.
Gate (0171-727 4043) **Lumiere** (0171-836 0691) **MGM Fulham Road** (0171-370 2636) **Ritzy** (0171-737 2121) **Screen/Baker St** (0171-935 2772) **Screen/Green** (0171-226 3520)

LIVING IN OBLIVION (15): Trials and tribulations of making a low-budget movie. Delicious comedy from director Tom DiCillo, with Steve Buscemi
MGMs: Pandon St (0171-930 0631) **Shaftesbury Ave** (0171-836 6279)

◆ **TO DIE FOR** (15): Delicious social satire about a television weather girl's murderous lust for glory. Gus Van Sant directs Nicole Kidman and Matt Dillon
MGM Haymarket (0171-839 1527) **Odeons: Kensington** (01426 914666) **Mezzanine** (01426 915683) **Swiss Cottage** (01426 914098) **UCI Whiteleys** (0171-792 3332) **Warner** (0171-437 4343)

◆ **A WALK IN THE CLOUDS** (PG): Vacuous 1940s romance with Keanu Reeves as a returning soldier who finds a new life in California's vineyards. Director, Alfonso Arau
MGM Trocadero (0171-434 0031) **Odeon Kensington** (01426 914666) **UCI Whiteleys** (0171-792 3332) **Warner** (0171-437 4343)

NEW RELEASES

◆ **CANDYMAN 2** (18): Feeble adventures of the urban bogeyman created by Clive Barker. With Tony Todd, Kelly Rowan. Director, Bill Condon.
MGM Trocadero (0171-434 0031) **Plaza** (0171-437 1234) **Warner** (0171-437 4343)

ELISA (15): Overwrought French tale of a runaway kid who seeks out her father. With Vanessa Paradis, Gérard Depardieu. Director, Jean Becker.
MGMs: Piccadilly (0171-437 3561) **Swiss Centre** (0171-439 4470)

IN THE BLEAK MIDWINTER (15): Actors struggle to mount *Hamlet*. Over-manic comedy from Kenneth Branagh, with Michael Maloney, Joan Collins.
Barbican (0171-638 8891) **MGMs: Chelsea** (0171-352 5096) **Tottenham Court Road** (0171-636 6148) **Odeons: Haymarket** (01426 915353) **Kensington** (01426 914666) **Swiss Cottage** (01426 914098) **Phoenix** (0181-883 2223) **Richmond** (0181-332 0030) **Ritzy** (0171-737 2121)

◆ **MAD LOVE** (12): Antonia Bird's shallow tale of runaway lovers, with Drew Barrymore and Chris O'Donnell.
Empire (0171-437 1234) **MGM Fulham Road** (0171-370 2636)

◆ **MURDER IN THE FIRST** (15): Flashy but absorbing Alcatraz drama, with Kevin Bacon. Christian Slater and Gary Oldman. Director, Marc Rocco.
MGMs: Fulham Road (0171-370 2636) **Haymarket** (0171-839 1527) **Odeon Swiss Cottage** (01426 914098) **UCI Whiteleys** (0171-792 3332) **Warner** (0171-437 4343)

411,000 readers of this section attend pop or rock music concerts at least once a year.

To advertise your concert in The Times Pop On Friday section please call our sales team on 0171 481 1982 or fax 0171 481 9313.

CONCERTS: Brendel thrills Manchester with his Schubert; Jansons explores the music of 1945

Last but not ultimate

Hallé/Nagano
Free Trade Hall, Manchester

ALFRED BRENDEL has acquired hero status with the Manchester audience at last. A full house came to the Free Trade Hall for a Hallé concert including major scores by Mozart and Bruckner, and displayed far less enthusiasm for those than for a solo piano piece. Even Brendel, who has given better performances of Schubert's Impromptu in B flat, must have wondered about the justice of it.

What his Schubert did have was spontaneity, above all a sensitivity to changes of harmony. That quality was less evident in Mozart's Piano Concerto in B flat, K595. It sounded as though he had set out to exclude any hint of personal charm. He did not deny himself some delicate decorations to the melodic line in the Larghetto, but he did deny the conductor broad nuances in colouring and expression.

Kent Nagano had prepared the Hallé Orchestra well for Bruckner's Seventh Symphony — so well that the legato string sound was applied to the piano concerto as well. Stylistically incongruous though it was in Mozart, balanced with finely tuned woodwind and firmly articulated brass it was just right in Bruckner.

There was playing of much beauty here, particularly in the lyrical Moderato passages. If the need to indulge in a little more of the same led to a too slow Trio section in the middle of the next movement, Nagano and the orchestra did at least have the technique to make the most of what they were doing.

So why Nagano's Bruckner inspired a less enthusiastic response than Brendel's Schubert is not clear. The concert was overlong; but that was not the problem. It was more that there was little sense of progress towards a goal. When they got there, on the final recall of the opening theme, the effect was not the ultimate but just the last.

GERALD LARNER

Out of the furnace

LPO/Jansons
Festival Hall

THE London Philharmonic is still striding out on *The Road Beyond*. Its concert series commemorating the end of the Second World War moved from Britten's to Honegger's war requiem on Thursday in an attempt to rehabilitate the composer's seldom-performed Third Symphony.

Composed in the liberated Paris of 1945, this *Symphonie Liturgique* is a triptych of turmoil, anguish and peace. The LPO, under Mariss Jansons, gave the work strong advocacy, yet it failed to make a strong impression.

Starting with angular themes, all driven by Honegger's motor rhythms, the infernal machine gives way to the *De profundis* slow movement. Its meandering melodies seem strangely calm. The depth and the cry are expressed only in the registers. The stuttering march of the finale depicting, according to Honegger, "blind government furnace" was, in Jansons's hand, given a banal swagger. Here, though, to quote the composer again, "there are still even birds to sing in the trees". Cello, solo violin (Joakim Svenheden) and piccolo bring the work to an uneasy peace.

The moment is reminiscent of Mahler's vision of the wanderer finding peace in death beneath the linden tree, an image to which he alluded in his First Symphony. This was the evening's companion piece, and Jansons's performance compensated for what the first half of the concert had lacked.

This was a performance of contrasts; a violent oscillation between innocence and experience. Where the Scherzo was militaristic, the central waltz purred with sentimentality. And where the funeral march was intruded upon by the raw voices of popular music-making, its central image of rest eternal came from that same numb distance from which Jansons had begun the work and to which it seemed at times to be yearning to return.

HILARY FINCH

ENTERTAINMENTS

ART GALLERIES

LEFEVRE GALLERY 30 Bruton St, W1. 0171-493 2107. An exhibition of MODERN BRITISH ARTISTS 1900-1945 27 Nov-20 Dec. Mon-Fri 10-5.

MacConnal - Mason. Christmas Exhibition. Paintings under £5000. 14 Duke St, St James's, London SW1 & 15 Burlington Arcade, London W1. Tel. 0171 839 7693

SPINK. The Botanical Garden. Watercolours by Gillian Barlow. 29 Nov-22 Dec. Mon-Fri, 9am-5.30pm. Tues 9am-7.30pm. 5 King St SW1

OPERA & BALLET

COLISEUM 0171 632 8300 (24hr) **ENGLISH NATIONAL OPERA**
ROYAL OPERA HOUSE 0171 304 4000 for Box Off & Standby info. Tickets available on the day
The Royal Opera
Tom't (First Night), Fri 7.30 **AIDA**
Tomor 7.30 **TOSCA**
Wed 7.00 (Last Night) **MATHIS DER MALER**
The Royal Ballet
Thur 7.30 Balanchine's **APOLLO/MacMillan's SIDE SHOW/Balanchine's DUO CONCERTANT/Page's FEARFUL SYMMETRIES**
Sat 7.00 (World Premiere) **TWYLA THARP ROSSINI BALLET**
English Bach Festival
Sun 7.00 **LE BOURGEOIS GENTILHOMME/DIDO AND AENEAS**

THEATRES

ADELPHI
"ANDREW LLOYD WEBBER'S MASTERPIECE" Wall St Journal
SUNSET BOULEVARD
Winner of 7 Tony Awards. including
BEST MUSICAL
Starring
ELAINE PAIGE
24HR CREDIT CARD BOOKINGS
CALL 0171 344 0055 (bkg fee)
GRP BOOKING 413 3302 (bkg fee)
No booking fee for Adelphi Box Office Callers
Recorded information 0171 379 6565
Mon-Sat 7.45 Mats Thur & Sat 3.00

ALBERY BO 0171 369 1730 cc 0171 344 4444 (no bkg fee) Grp 0171 413 3311
"FIVE STAR SHOW ...IRRESISTIBLE" D Exp
FIVE GUYS NAMED MOE
SIXTH STOMPING YEAR
Mon-Thu 8pm Fri & Sat 5 & 8.45
LAST 6 WEEKS
Fri & Sat 6pm perf:Top 4 prices 2 for 1

FORTUNE 0171 836 2238
From 13 Dec. A Magical Xmas Show
THE ENCHANTED TOYSHOP
"A real treat for 3-9 year olds" Odn

ALDWYCH cc 0171 416 6003 0171 420 0000 (no fee)
Evgs 7.30, Mats Wed & Sat 3.0
MIAMH CUSACK
MARGARET TYZACK
PAUL BHATTACHARJEE
INDIAN INK
"TOM STOPPARD'S TRIUMPH - A BEAUTIFUL AND FUNNY FIREBALL OF A PLAY TO ILLUMINATE THE WEST END"
Today. Directed by PETER WOOD
LAST 5 WEEKS ENDS JAN 6

AMBASSADORS
836 6111/420 0100/344 4444
From 11 Dec - 7 weeks only
TRAINSPOTTING
Award-winning play from Irvine Welsh's novel
"Feverishly Funny" Guardian
Mon-Fri at 8 Sat 5 & 8.30 Wed Mat at 5

APOLLO 494 5068/344 4444/420 0000
JENNY SEAGROVE
"Impeccable" Times
HAYLEY MILLS
"Magnificent" F.T
DEAD GUILTY
"Richard Harris' new play is
THE PERFECT THRILLER" S.Times
Mon-Fri 8, Mats Thu 3, Sat 5 & 8.15

APOLLO VICTORIA cc 0171 416 6055 cc 24hrs 0171 344 4444/0171 420 0000 Grps 0171 416 6075/ 413 3321
Andrew Lloyd Webber's
New production of
STARLIGHT EXPRESS
"A REBORN THEATRICAL DELIGHT" Daily Mail
White knuckle runs 19.45 daily
Tue & Sat 15.00 Tickets from £12.50

BLOOMSBURY THEATRE
B/O C.C 0171 388 8822 From Dec 18
Mon-Fri 11.30 & 3.00
W/C Dec 25 Tue-Sat 11.30 & 3.00
SOOTY AT CHRISTMAS

CAMBRIDGE BO & cc 0171 494 5054 cc (no bkg fee) 312 1992/ 344 4444 Grps 413 3321/ 312 1970/ 494 5454
FAME
THE MUSICAL
"FAME IS A FEEL-GOOD TRIUMPH" Mail On Sunday
"BREATHTAKING" Independent
Eves 7.30, Mats Wed & Sat 3.00

SHAFTESBURY 0171 379 5399 0171 344 4444 (24hr/no bkg fee) Groups 0171 413 3321
TOMMY
PAUL KEATING KIM WILDE
Previews 20 February. Opens 5 March

COMEDY BO & cc 0171 369 1731 cc 0171 420 0000 (no bkg fee)
ZOE WANAMAKER in
THE GLASS MENAGERIE
by TENNESSEE WILLIAMS
Directed by Sam Mendes
FROM 7 DEC BOOK NOW
Eves 7.30 Mats Sat 3.00
OPENS THUR LIMITED SEASON

CRITERION 369 1747 cc (no bkg fee) 0171 344 4444
DANIEL MASSEY MICHAEL PENNINGTON
"two compelling leading performances...a tremendous play, tremendously performed" D.Tel
TAKING SIDES
"a masterpiece" Mail On Sunday
by Ronald Harwood
"scrupulously well-directed by Harold Pinter" Observer
Mon-Sat 7.30, Mats Wed & Sat 2.30
LAST WEEK
MUST END SATURDAY

CRITERION 369 1747/420 0000/ 344 4444
RUPERT STREET LONELY HEARTS CLUB
by Jonathan Harvey
"wickedly funny...brilliantly comic" D.Mail
Tues-Sat 8, Sat 4, Sun 3 & 7
NB Two Sunday perfs!!
OPENS 13 DECEMBER

DOMINION Tickelines 0171 416 6060/ 0171 420 0000 (bkg fee). Grps 0171 416 6075/413 3321/420 0200
GREASE
Starring SHANE RICHIE and SAMANTHA JANUS
"Fast, furious & fun, fun, fun." Daily Mirror
Eves 7.30, Mats Wed & Sat 3pm
TICKETS AVAILABLE - APPLY DAILY TO BOX OFFICE

DRURY LANE THEATRE ROYAL 93 cc (Bkg fee) 24hr 7 days 0171 494 5000/344 4444/420 0000 Grps 494 5454/413 3311/312 8000
MISS SAIGON
"THE CLASSIC LOVE STORY OF OUR TIME"
NOW IN ITS
7TH SENSATIONAL YEAR!
Eves 7.45 Mats Wed & Sat 3pm
Good seats avail for Wed Mat & some perts - apply B.O. FOR TELEPHONE/POSTAL BOOKINGS & PERSONAL CALLERS
0171 494 5060 (BKG FEE)

DUCHESS cc 0171 494 5070 cc 344 4444 (no bkg fee)/636 2428 (bkg fee) 0171-413 3321 Eves 8pm, Wed mat 3pm, Sat 5pm & 8.30
"A SAUCY COMEDY" E. Std
NOW IN ITS 5th YEAR
DON'T DRESS FOR DINNER
"Gloriously Outrageous" T.Out

DUKE OF YORK'S 0171 836 5122/9837 cc 420 0000/344 4444 (24 hrs, no fee)
ROYAL COURT CLASSICS
Henry Goodman Alsing D'Sullivan
Fred Pearson Tim Potter
HYSTERIA
by Terry Johnson
BEST COMEDY
OLIVIER AWARD
"brilliantly original and entertaining" S.Times
FOR 8 WEEKS ONLY
Eves 7.30pm Mats Sat 3pm

FORTUNE BO & CC 0171 836 2238/0171 312 8033
DAVID BURKE ANDREW HAVILL
Susan Hill's
THE WOMAN IN BLACK
Adapted by Stephen Mallatratt
"A real thrill of horror" S.Times
NOW IN ITS 7TH YEAR
Mon-Sat 8pm Mats Tues 3pm Sat 4pm

GARRICK 0171 494 5085/ 0171 312 1990 (no bkg fee)
WINNER OF
19 MAJOR AWARDS
The Royal National Theatre production of
J.B Priestley's
AN INSPECTOR CALLS
"THRILLING...MUST BE SEEN" D.Mail
"ONE OF THE MOST INTOXICATING, THEATRICALLY IMAGINATIVE EXPERIENCES OF THE 1990s"E.S
"TWO HOURS OF ENTHRALLING, VISUALLY STUNNING DRAMA"D.Tel
FINAL LONDON SEASON
Mon-Fri 7.45, Sat 5.00 & 8.15, Wed mat 2.30

HAYMARKET 930 8800 cc 344 4444/420 0000 (bkg fee)
THE PETER HALL COMPANY
ALAN BATES GEMMA JONES
'superb'Times 'marvellous'Gdn
THE MASTER BUILDER
Peter Hall's fine new staging'D.Tel
'A classic, rebuilt by a master'Today
FOR 5 WEEKS ONLY
Mon-Sat 7.45, Mats Wed, Sat 3pm

GIELGUD Shaftesbury Ave inc cc 0171 494 5530 (no bkg fee) cc 0171 344 4444 (no bkg fee) Groups 0171 494 5454
JULIA McKENZIE COMMUNICATING DOORS
by ALAN AYCKBOURN
"A MELODRAMATIC COMEDY THRILLER WONDERFULLY FUNNY AND GENUINELY SCARY" D.Tel
"with the audience in turn ROARING WITH LAUGHTER AND LEAPING FORWARD IN FRIGHT" Independent
Eves 7.30 Mats Wed & Sat 3.00

HER MAJESTY'S 24hr 494 5400 (bkg fee) CC 344 4444/420 0000 (bkg fee) Grps 494 5454/413 3311/930 8123
ANDREW LLOYD WEBBER'S AWARD WINNING MUSICAL
THE PHANTOM OF THE OPERA
Directed by HAROLD PRINCE
NOW BKG TO 28 SEPT 96
Eves 7.45 Mats Wed & Sat 3.00.
Apply to Box Office daily for returns

LONDON PALLADIUM BO/CC 0171 494 5020/344 4444 (£1 tkt serv chg) 420 0000 Grps 0171 494 5454
JIM DALE
RETURNS TO THE WEST END
"A MAJOR THEATRICAL EVENT" Daily Mail
OLIVER!
"LIONEL BART'S MASTERPIECE YOU CAN'T ASK FOR MORE" S.Times
Eves 7.30 Mats Wed & Sat 2.30
SOME GOOD SEATS AVAIL
NOW FOR WEEKDAY PERFS

LYRIC Shaftesbury Ave BO/cc 0171 494 5045 cc 0171 344 4444 (no bkg fee)
LEO McKERN
"a comic tour de force" D Tel
NICHOLA McAULIFFE
"born to play Maggie" Today
GRAHAM TURNER
"gloriously funny" D.Mail
HOBSON'S CHOICE
by Harold Brighouse
Directed by Frank Hauser
"a magnificent hit" D.Tel
Eves 7.30 Mat Sat 3.00
EXTENDED TO 3 FEB

NATIONAL THEATRE BO 0171 928 2252 Grps 0171 620 0741/24hr cc bkg fee 0171 420 0000
OLIVIER Ton't, Tomor 7.15 A LITTLE NIGHT MUSIC Music & lyrics by Stephen Sondheim, book by Hugh Wheeler. Ton't 6pm.
PLATFORM: GLEN BAXTER'S "WONDER BOOK OF SEX"
COTTESLOE Ton't, Tomor 7.00
RICHARD II William Shakespeare

NEW LONDON Drury Lane WC2 BO 0171 405 0072 CC 0171 404 4079 24hr 0171 344 4444/420 0000 Grps 0171 413 3311/930 8123
THE ANDREW LLOYD WEBBER/ T.S. ELIOT INTERNATIONAL AWARD-WINNING MUSICAL
CATS
Eves 7.45 Mats Tue & Sat 3.00
LATECOMERS NOT ADMITTED WHILE AUDITORIUM IS IN MOTION, PLEASE BE PROMPT.
Bars open at 6.45
LIMITED NO. OF SEATS AVAIL DAILY FROM BOX OFFICE.

OLD VIC 0171 928 8855/312 8034
The Royal National Theatre's
THE WIND IN THE WILLOWS
"It is hard to imagine a more enjoyable family show than this" D.Tel
'AN EVENING OF HIGH THEATRICAL PLEASURE' Eve Std
SOME GOOD SEATS STILL AVAILABLE BEFORE CHRISTMAS
Mon-Sat 7.30pm, Wed & Sat mats 2.30pm

PALACE THEATRE 0171-434 0909 cc 24hrs (bkg fee) 0171-344 4444 Grps 0171 413 3311
THE WORLD'S MOST POPULAR MUSICAL
LES MISERABLES
NOW IN ITS 11TH RECORD-BREAKING YEAR
Eves 7.30 Mats Thu & Sat 2.30
Latecomers not admitted until the interval
LIMITED NO. OF SEATS AVAIL DAILY FROM BOX OFFICE

PHOENIX BO/CC 0171 369 1733 /344 4444/420 0000 (fee)
BEST MUSICAL
ALL 4 MAJOR AWARDS
WILLY RUSSELL'S
BLOOD BROTHERS
STEPHANIE LAWRENCE
STEFAN DENNIS CARL WAYNE
...Brings the audience to its feet, and rowing its approval" D Mail
Eves 7.45 Mats Thurs 3 Sat 4

PRINCE OF WALES 0171 839 5972/420 0232/344 4444/416 6052 Grps 0171 420 0200/413 3321
TOMMY STEELE
WHAT A SHOW
"Tommy's Show packs Flash, Bang, Wallop" Eve Standard
Evgs Mon-Sat 8pm, Mats Wed 3pm Sat 5pm
For a Limited Season

PICCADILLY 0171 369 1734 cc 24hrs 344 4444, Grps 312 1970/413 3321
WINNER!
BEST MUSICAL
Evening Standard Award '95
"ONE OF THE BEST MUSICAL PRODUCTIONS LONDON HAS SEEN FOR YEARS" D.Express
"JERRY HERMAN'S WONDERFUL BURST OF MUSICAL FIREWORKS" D.Mail
MACK & MABEL
Mon-Sat at 7.45, Mats Wed & Sat at 3.00

PLAYHOUSE 0171 839 4401 /0171 420 0000/0171 344 4444
AN ALL STAR CAST IN RAY COONEY'S NEW COMEDY HIT
FUNNY MONEY
"LAUGHS GALORE...A WINNER"D. Exp
"Better than Feydeau...priceless"D. Tel
"It deserves to Run For Your Wife, oops, run & run"D. Mail
Mon-Sat 8.00, Mats Thu 3.00, Sat 5.00
THEATRE RESTAURANT 0171 930 9445

PRINCE EDWARD 0171 734 8951 cc (24hr no bkg fee) First Call 420 0100 / 0171 344 4444 Groups 930 6123.
BEST MUSICAL
Laurence Olivier Awards 93
"YOU'D BE CRAZY TO MISS IT" D.Mail
CRAZY FOR YOU
"PUTS THE BRIGHT LIGHTS BACK IN THE WEST END IN DAZZLING STYLE" M.o.S
Eves 7.45, Mats Thu & Sat 3.00
GOOD SEATS AVAILABLE THIS WEEK

PRINCE EDWARD 0171 447 5400
First Call 420 0100 (24hr Bkg fee) 344 4444 Groups 420 0200
Cameron Mackintosh presents
MARTIN GUERRE
A New Musical by
BOUBIL & SCHONBERG
FROM 22 MAY 1996

QUEENS BO/CC (£1 bkg fee) 0171 494 5040/344 4444
Mon-Thu 8pm, Fri 8.45pm & Sat 6pm & 8.45pm
LILY SAVAGE PRISONER CELL-BLOCK H
THE MUSICAL
"Hilarious"F.T.
"A Huge Hit - A Christmas Smash"Obs
6 WEEKS ONLY!
Stalls & D.C. £12.50 £24.00.
Upper Circle £8.50

ROYAL SHAKESPEARE COMPANY LONDON
(0171 638 8891)
BARBICAN
A CHRISTMAS CAROL Ton't 7.15
THE PIT: CAIN previews from 12 Dec
STRATFORD (01789 295623)
RST: ROMEO AND JULIET
Ton't 7.30
SWAN: THE DEVIL IS AN ASS
Ton't 7.30
TOF: THE PHOENICIAN WOMEN
Tomor 1.30

SAVOY THEATRE 0171 836 8888 cc 420 0000 grps 312 1970 No bkg fee
BELINDA LANG KEVIN McNALLY
in Terry Johnson's award winning comedy
DEAD FUNNY
"Blisshully Witty and Wicked" Eve Stand
Mon-Fri 8pm, Sat 8.15pm
Sat mat 5pm & Wed mat 2.30pm

SHAFTESBURY 0171 379 5399 CC 0171 344 4444 Until 16 Dec
EDDIE IZZARD
ENTIRE RUN SOLD OUT
Queue daily for returns
Tues - Sat 8pm & Sun 7.30pm

SHAFTESBURY 0171 379 5399 344 4444 (24hr/bkg fee)
IT'S BACK - 4 WEEKS ONLY
19 DEC-13 JAN INC MATS
RETURN TO THE
FORBIDDEN PLANET
THE COSMIC XMAS PARTY
"deliriously addictive" D.Tel

ST MARTIN'S 0171 836 1443 (no bkg fee) 0171 497 9977 (bkg fee) Groups 0171 312 1994 (no bkg fee)
Eves 8, Tues 2.45, Sat 5 & 8
44th Year of Agatha Christie's
THE MOUSETRAP

STRAND THEATRE Box Off & cc (no fee) 0171 930 8800 cc (bkg fee) 0171 344 4444/420 0000 Groups 0171 413 3321/0171 930 6123
BUDDY
The Buddy Holly Story
"BRILLIANT" Sun
BUDDY
"WONDERFUL STUFF" Sun Tel
BUDDY
Tues-Thurs 8.0 Fri 5.30 & 8.30
Sats 5.00 & 8.30, Suns 4.00
ALL SEATS 1/2 PRICE FRI 5.30 PERF
7th HEAVENLY YEAR

VAUDEVILLE 0171 836 9987 cc 420 0000/344

The origin of mass may be too small to find

No trifling matter



SCIENCE BRIEFING

Nigel Hawkes

PROFESSOR Stephen Hawking likes to provoke, but his latest sally is something special. He has suggested that the £1.5 billion machine being built at CERN, the European Particle Physics Laboratory in Geneva, is unlikely to find its principal quarry, the Higgs boson.

This would be a pity, to say the least. Atom smashers of ever-greater power have produced a theory, the Standard Model, which works well in explaining the nature of matter and the forces that hold it together. One gap that remains is the origin of mass. Edinburgh physicist Dr Peter Higgs suggested that all particles might acquire mass by interacting with an undiscovered particle, the Higgs boson.

To find it, the theory suggests, we have to collide protons together at energies that could be provided by the new machine, the large hadron collider. To find the origin of mass would be momentous, which is one reason why CERN has skilfully managed to raise the money to build the machine.

Enter Professor Hawking, with an unwelcome message. In a paper submitted to *Physical Review D* he argues that thanks to the structure of the universe at the very tiniest scale, the Higgs boson may be invisible. At these scales — across distances of only ten to the power of minus 35 metres — the world is dominated by quantum effects, which cause particles and tiny black holes to appear and disappear all the time.

In his paper, Professor Hawking argues that the black holes that appear do so in pairs, and during their brief lifetime will both attract particles and scatter them outwards. According to his calculations, a Higgs boson that is scattered in this way will lose its quantum coherence.

Regular quantum theory says that you cannot know both the position and momentum of a particle at the same time. But the equations suggest that for the Higgs boson you cannot know *either* its position *or* its momentum.

This makes the particle a very strange cove indeed, which Professor Hawking is at a loss to describe. But he is pretty sure that if the equations are right, it will be undetectable. Other physicists remain sceptical. "It's wild and provocative," Dr Malcolm MacCallum of Queen Mary College in London told *New Scientist*. Dr John Ellis, the top theoretician at CERN, is more dismissive. "I don't believe the argument," he says.

Radiation is no threat to superbug



A DOSE of radiation of about 500 rads would mean almost certain death to you or me. But the bacterium *Deinococcus radiodurans* would shrug that off.

Experiments by Dr Kenneth Minton of the Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences in Bethesda, Maryland, have shown that the bug can spring back to life after doses of 50,000 to 300,000 rads. Such a gigantic blast shatters the bacterium's chromosome into hundreds of fragments, but somehow the cells have the ability to reassemble the jigsaw.

In as little as 12 to 24 hours, he has found, the bugs are up and running again. How they acquired the ability is a mystery, as the Earth has never been exposed to such high levels of radiation, but in *Science* he and colleague Dr Michael Daly speculate that it may be a side-effect of the bacterium's ability to recover after severe dehydration.

Telescopes 'film' supernova debris



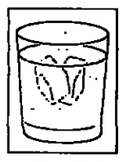
A WORLDWIDE network of radio telescopes has been used to take a unique "movie" of a supernova explosion.

Astronomers in Europe and the US pointed their dishes at 1993J, the supernova discovered in 1993 by a Spanish amateur astronomer. The images show the debris from the explosion of a massive star in the constellation Ursa Major spreading outward at a speed of 10,000 miles per second.

So far, there is no evidence that the material is slowing down.

Although the debris is expanding symmetrically, it appears brighter on one side than the other. Some astronomers have suggested that this is the result of the debris colliding with a companion star but, as there is no evidence of slowing, the research team suggests in *Science* that this cannot be true. Another explanation is needed.

Freezing theory ends up in hot water



DOES hot water really freeze more quickly than cold when you put it in a freezer? And if so, why? The question was originally raised in 1969 by a Tanzanian student, Erasto Mpemba, who found that ice-cream mixture froze more rapidly if he put it the freezer hot. The observation defies common sense, but seems to be true, to judge by a flurry of letters in *New Scientist*. Plenty of readers appear to have spent the intervening years doing experiments and convincing themselves Mpemba was right.

So why does it happen? One straightforward explanation is that warm water in an ice-tray melts an iced-up freezer, making better thermal contact and increasing the rate of heat transfer, more than offsetting the greater amount of heat that has to be removed. Michael Davis of the University of Tasmania, who provides this theory, says the effect was noted first by Sir Francis Bacon (1561-1626) when he put wooden pails of water on ice. Another explanation is that a film of ice forming on the surface of cold water insulates the rest, slowing down freezing. Not so, says David Auerbach, a South African physicist who works in Germany. He has a far more subtle theory.

In 103 experiments, he found that the Mpemba effect was by no means a hard and fast rule, but believes that when it happens it is the result of supercooling. Water must usually be cooled to well below zero before ice crystals suddenly form, and this can sometimes happen at a higher temperature in water that was formerly hot.

But the ice that forms is mushy, still largely consisting of water. If it is really solid ice you want for your gin and tonic, cold water always makes it first, Dr Auerbach says. So it looks as if Mpemba was right and wrong at the same time: not an uncommon experience in science.

Why magic pennies are the main attraction

Anjana Ahuja on how a chance discovery has helped to teach children the power of magnetism



Highwire trick: a young visitor to an Institute of Physics exhibition watches a penny coaxed along a metal coathanger

Five-year-old Roderick Rees was spellbound when a neighbour showed him the extraordinary feats he could perform with nothing more than a few coins and a magnet. It was a special treat because, at the time, Roderick was undergoing treatment for leukaemia at St Bartholomew's Hospital, London.

"That's when it struck me what a wonderful way of educating and entertaining children this would be," recalls Professor Robin Willson.

That these "magic pennies" existed might have passed unnoticed were it not for Professor Willson, a biochemist at Brunel University in west London. Stepping outside his home in Rickmansworth, Hertfordshire, for a breath of fresh air in the winter of 1992, he noticed a magnetic key-box lying in the front garden with a coin stuck to it. "I thought it was a pfennig but it was a shiny new penny," he recalls.

The perplexed professor, who knew copper is not magnetic, contacted the Royal Mint. It confirmed that all 1p and 2p coins produced after September 1992 were being manufactured from steel, an alloy of iron, which is magnetic, before being electroplated with copper to stop them from rusting. The Royal Mint had decided to change from copper to steel because steel is cheaper.

With the help of a horseshoe magnet, Professor Willson showed off his discovery to Roderick and other neighbours' children, and children in hospital. One of his tricks was to build a pyramid of pennies, which he was persuaded by colleagues to show at the Edinburgh Science Festival in 1993. A photograph of the pyramid appeared in *The Times*, and the magic pennies became the surprise hit of the festival.

"The Royal Mint offered to supply us with new pennies, although not free," says Professor Willson, who regularly visits his local bank to exchange notes for bags of pristine pennies. "I rang the Institute of Physics, which was not aware of the newly magnetic coins." The IOP extended an expenses-paid invitation for him to exhibit his magic pennies at its annual congress in Telford earlier this year.

Among the mindboggling feats possible is "Blow Spinning Olympics", where a chain of pennies is dangled vertically from a magnet. The last coin in the chain can be made to spin by blowing at it through a straw. Levitating pyramids can be constructed, and without touching, the magnets can coax pennies along metal coathangers.

This last experiment — the remote rolling of pennies by a magnet — is the one that has stunned the experts. All it takes is a flexible steel coathanger, a thin board (a table mat, for example), a penny and a magnet. The horizontal bar of the coathanger is arched in the middle and then taped tightly to the board so the arch is vertical. A penny is placed flat on the board at one end of the arch. By sliding the magnet underneath the board underneath the arch, the penny moves across the board. By orienting the magnet in a certain way, the coin can even be made to roll along the underside of the arch. "We are still waiting for someone to find a record of anything like this having been performed before," says Prof Willson. According to the IOP, this remote rolling of pennies defies an intuitive explanation, and is now in the process of being patented.

> Some of the professor's tricks seem to defy logic

Otherwise, the strange powers of the pennies lie in the intuitive science of magnetism. Unlike copper, iron can be made temporarily magnetic by being placed alongside a magnet. In a metal or other material, each atom is made up of a positively charged nucleus and negatively charged electrons. Because a moving electrical charge produces a tiny magnetic field, and these electrons dance around continually, each atom acts like a miniature bar magnet.

In most metals, these atomic bar magnets point in random directions and cancel each other out. A big magnet, however, will cause some of these tiny bar magnets to be pulled in one direction. The tiny bar magnets no longer cancel each other out, and they cling to the magnet. Whipping the magnet away makes the aligned atomic magnets flop back to their original random state.

However, in magnetic materials, like steel, the atoms already show a degree of order. They are arranged in small clusters called domains, where the atoms in each domain line up in the same direction. A magnet causes the domains — and thus the atoms inside — to line up. In magnetic materials, this alignment remains for some time after the magnet is withdrawn. The material suddenly, and temporarily, becomes a magnet. The strength of the original magnet determines for how long the material maintains its new-found magnetic properties.

To market his innovation, Professor Willson set up the Magic Penny Society, whose aims are to extend the public understanding of science and to raise money for cancer patients. With the help of a £10,000 loan from Brunel University to cover initial costs, the society has produced boxed sets of pennies and extra-strong magnets.

Also included in each set is an explanatory booklet of simple experiments, written by Professor Willson together with Professor Patrick Riley, a friend from University College London, and Daniel Harris, a Brunel graduate. The sets have just been launched and should entertain adults as much as children.

Since Roderick — now eight and in full remission from leukaemia — was the inspiration behind turning a chance discovery into a way to enthrall and educate children about science, initial proceeds from sales of the Magic Penny sets will go to St Bartholomew's Hospital.

● *Magic Penny sets, priced £19.99, are available from Harrods. Information about other stockists from Educational Liaison, Brunel University (01895 274000).*

INSIDE SECTION 2

Sport for all
Raiders of the lost art

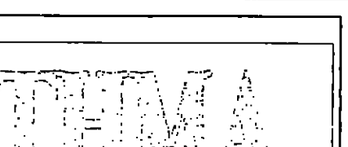
PAGE 34

ASTHMA
HOW CAN
SCHOOLS
CLEAR
THE AIR?

Asthma affects a million school children and is increasing.

This week The Times Educational Supplement investigates the causes and shows how schools can help sufferers to keep up with their education.

The TES. This Friday at your newsagent.



YOU CAN'T AFFORD TO IGNORE IT.

£30 INC VAT FREE AIRTIME*
OFFER CLOSES 31.12.95

Can you beat it?

It is the latest in exclusive, and unique offers from UniqueAir.

Like the Motorola Microtac Duo, the phone with the unique flip design from only £4.99 incl. VAT, connected absolutely free to our new *Talk 'N' Save* tariff.

Talk 'N' Save automatically adjusts all call charges according to usage, cutting your bill. It's simple, it takes all the worry out of choosing the right tariff, and it could save you as much as 20% on call charges every month without any increase in the Low User monthly line rental*.

Also unique to UniqueAir is a special gift package. This Christmas you can give a mobile phone to anyone you wish and pay their first 12 months line rental too. All the recipient of your gift pays for is their calls. So they get a wonderful gift, peace of mind and no nasty surprises.

You won't find better or more imaginative, deals available today. But at UniqueAir we believe you shouldn't decide the phone you buy and the tariff you connect to on the strength of an advertisement alone. (A recent independent survey showed that 1 in 4 people regret their decision.)

We're not tied to any one manufacturer or network so before we sell you anything our information centres will offer you as much free advice as you need. For your nearest information centre call free on 0800 33 88 22 and we'll help you make the right choice.



*ASK IN STORE FOR FULL DETAILS.

TAKE THE UNIQUE OPTION. UNIQUEAIR CELLULAR COMMUNICATIONS

CALL FREE BETWEEN 8am-10pm
0800 33 88 22
With over 75 high street information centres UniqueAir is one of the largest independent service providers.

T2

هكذا من الأصل

Rise and rise of the daddy's girl

They are often chic, usually wealthy and always impeccably well connected. They know what they want and, more importantly, so do their fathers. Expert man-pleasers, they spurn the stridency of the power-suited female. **Jason Cowley** reports on a fascinating new breed: the daddy's girls


REX

Chris Patten and Laura: is there a secret sadness?


ALPHA

Barry Norman and Samantha: a name to open doors


ALPHA

Michael Heseltine and Annabel: a famous father can be "a bloody nightmare"

YOU SEE them sometimes, these daddy's girls, recumbent and graceful on the pages of a glossy magazine, famous for being born of fame and eager to profit from the striking familiarity of their names.

Clinging to their lightly-won celebrity, these aspiring girls peer back at us from photographs through a thin veil of self-promotion. They seem to have nothing to declare except their notable antecedents — and their intense yearning for recognition. They are the daddy's girls and they have penetrated every walk of life.

Time was when every powerful father seemed to want an equally powerful son. In every major profession nepotism was the key that opened doors — but predictably only for boys. Nowadays, though, it is daughters rather than sons who seem to be benefiting from the invisible hand of paternal preference.

A characteristic of some daddy's girls is that they are essentially man-pleasers. If you work with one you will recognise the signs — the flirtatious femininity, the way they are often the first to laugh at the boss's jokes, the sly suggestiveness. It is as if their father-fetishism has been transposed into the workplace, with the boss becoming the new figure from whom they seek approval.

Publishing magnate Naim Attallah has always employed young women with successful fathers. "I love being surrounded by these daddy's girls," he says. "Because they feel so loved, they are loving themselves. They show a lot of affection to the boss and can be very flirtatious in a non-sexual way, just as very young girls can flirt with their fathers. But I fear other women envy their confidence, and their advantages."

Germaine Greer believes that it is no longer acceptable for fathers to help their sons: "By helping the son it is as if the father is somehow castrating him. It's the Oedipal thing — fathers help their daughters but not their sons."

But hold on. Is it not paradoxical that, after more than two decades spent railing against the hegemony of patriarchy, many women who call themselves feminists are in positions of responsibility not because of merit but because of paternal influence?

"Look," Greer counters, "anyone who thinks we live in a meritocracy is sadly misled. If your father is someone whom other people want to please, you will use this to your advantage, just as women have always used their big brown eyes and their long, long legs. Anyway, some of these women with famous fathers, like Esther Freud and Alexandra Shulman, are genuinely talented. A clever girl will always command her father's attention."

Esther Freud spent much of her early childhood separated from her father, the painter Lucian. When she was very young her mother took her and her elder sister Bella to Marrakesh to follow the hippy trail, but, lost in the hysteria of the counter culture, Esther felt her father's absence like a presence. She is now very close to him. Freud even produced an original drawing of his daughter for the jacket of her debut novel, *Hideous Kinky*.

"I find his method of work completely inspirational," Esther says. "While not offering actual advice, my father has always been very supportive, and the greatest thing I have learnt from him is patience. He works very slowly but never gets frustrated. When I was younger I felt I wanted to be creative before I had actually created something. But I now understand what it takes to be creative."

> 'Everyone has to exploit whatever help they can get'

The recent BBC adaptation of *Pride and Prejudice* was vibrantly sustained by daddy's girls, with at least five daughters of successful fathers among the small cast, including the fabulous Jennifer Ehle. Although she is the daughter of the screenwriter John Ehle and the actress Rosemary Harris, she was cast in her breakthrough role of Calypso in *The Camomile Lawn* without any assistance from her parents.

Film critic Emma Norman, daughter of the laconic Barry, also owed her breakthrough to serendipity. "I was working for a computer magazine when another magazine in the same group asked if I'd like to review some videos," she recalls. "I never dreamt I'd end up reviewing films for a living." She admits, however, that she would never have received her career-transforming offer had she been called anything other than Norman. "Of course, my name has opened doors for me — and it's a very good name. Still, I've experienced a lot of hostility in my life. I remember people hating me at university even when they had never spoken to me. They expected me to be snooty or arrogant."


REX

Fashionable Stella McCartney and Naomi Campbell

Alexandra Shulman, highly rated editor of *Vogue* and eldest daughter of the veteran theatre critic Milton, agrees with Greer that women will use whatever advantages they have to enhance their careers. She concedes that her father's reputation may have helped her to get her first job. "After that it's up to you. You won't survive if you haven't got any talent. Still, everyone needs to exploit whatever help they can get."

And famous fathers love to help in the most unusual ways. Paul McCartney, for instance, composed the music for his daughter Stella's graduation show from St Martin's School of Art in London. That Stella was also able to call on Naomi Campbell, Kate Moss and Jasmin Le Bon to model her designs, when the other 70 students had to rely on friends and models *manquées*, may have owed nothing, to her father's influence.

Speaking after the show, one student complained: "It just shows you what money and a famous name can do." But McCartney himself was delighted: "I am the proudest dad in the world."

But for some a famous name can prove too gloomy a luxuriance. One less than successful daddy's girl is Chris Patten's daughter Laura. She caused quite a stir a few years back when she wore an eye-catching black mini-skirt at her father's investiture as governor of Hong Kong. To many onlookers this teenager, with her flowing hair and knowing smile, was fabulously exciting. Yet there was sadness behind her smile: within six weeks she had returned to London, where she spoke confusedly of becoming a model, a television presenter or an actress.

Describing herself as "Daddy's little girl", she confessed that her father had bought her *that* skirt. Then she disappeared from view, her aspirations stillborn.

Singer-songwriter Kim Wilde, daughter of the rock star Marty, says she used to find her father's fame an intense burden: "When I was at art college I changed my name to Kim Smith because I wanted to escape. For a whole year no one knew who I was, and I found that sense of anonymity very exciting. But when I had my first hit [*Kids in America*, written by her father], I realised that I'd been fighting something I couldn't change and I chose to embrace being Marty's daughter completely. I've had the accusation of nepotism screamed at me ever since, but after 15 years I know I'm established in my own right."

For journalist Annabel Heseltine, daughter of deputy Prime Minister Michael, having your life perpetually viewed in terms of your father's "can be a bloody nightmare. You know your father's influence can open doors for you, but at the same time you wonder if people are judging you on who you are, rather than on what you can do. I was appalled recently when, after I filed a report from Rwanda, Allison Pearson wrote a piece asking what Rwanda had done to deserve a Heseltine. There I was risking my life, and this armchair journalist was writing that. It makes you so mad."

Whatever the real reasons why women quit top jobs, says **Marcelle D'Argy Smith**, *they will be condemned by men as failures*

The misogynists' new trophy: a stay-at-home wife

We told you. We warned you. We said so. Women can't have it all but they will insist on trying. This time it's Linda Kelsey, the graceful and intelligent editor of *She* — the magazine "for women who juggle their lives", who has resigned because of "ill-health".

It's obviously far too stressful to combine the roles of lover, mother and magazine editor. And if Linda can't do it, neither can you. Remember Penny Hughes, the manager director of Coca-Cola who left her £225,000-a-year job because she wanted a baby? Now she was smart. She knew it couldn't be done and, to the applause of tabloid journalists and quite a few men, she left because she'd got her priorities straight. She *knew* you can't bring up a child properly and successfully run a company. And what's more important in life than raising a child?

But hold on. What's the *truth* about the reasons why women like Linda and Penny leave their jobs? Why is Nicola Jeal quitting the editorship of *Elle* and Francine Lawrence resigning the editorship of *Country Living*? Why do some women suddenly leave top jobs? The truth is — you'll never know.

The reasons vary in each case and it rarely suits the company or corporation to reveal the real reason for the departure of high-profile employees. For political and financial reasons the ex-employees don't talk, and sometimes have to sign legal documents stating they won't ever discuss the terms and manner of their departure. But in Linda's case (she's being retained as editor at large) it could well be that 25 years spent with one company could have caused her to reassess her life and future, whatever her success and however well National Magazine Company is behaving towards her.

Whatever the reasons for successful women leaving top jobs, a gleeful and misogynist press will report — if you have a family — that here's yet another tragic example of a woman trying to have it all and failing. If you're single and childless, what a lonely and sad creature you are, banking all on your career which has now vanished.

Women *can* have it all, or certainly have most of it. Countless women are terrific all-round achievers. But many men at the top resent their progress bitterly and they're damned if they're going to make it easy. On the contrary — and this is a sinister fact of the mid-Nineties — many companies are making it much more difficult for women, for many men and for creative people everywhere.

In the teeth of the recession in the early Nineties, we all realised times were tough. We pulled our oars with gusto if we had jobs. We worked harder and longer. Who'd have dreamt that the Bottom Line would become more important than people, ideals, integrity, decency and even doing the job well?

Some companies are being run by men with the creativity of dead rats and the sensitivity of camp commandants.

Now the new word is "presenteeism". You have to be in the office. You have to stay in the office as long as possible. They've seen we can do it in a crisis. Now we have to continue to do it. Or attend every extra work-related activity possible. The MD demands it. He works crazed hours. Why shouldn't you?

And, of course, the MD doesn't understand why you're working anyway. After all, his own wife doesn't. Ambitious men today think it is essential that they have a trophy, stay-at-home wife. And his wife invariably colludes in his selfish pursuit of personal power because she hates the idea of him working with women. She thinks that's why he always comes home so late; she refuses to contemplate the idea that he works late because he'd rather be in the office than with his family. Yet his idea of family life is frequently to discuss "my family" with his employees.

There are many women who'd almost prefer a bit of sexual harassment to the verbal bullying and threats they now receive from MDs desperate to produce good results for shareholders and holding companies. Many male employees suffer equally but perhaps it's easier to intimidate a woman, especially one with children.

It's as if domestic violence had spread to the workplace and there is no legislation in place to stop it. Battered employees are everywhere. But the tightening of the fists and hardening of the arteries from male bosses will surely have to cease. The culture will have to change before we all fall down.



An AirJetCard
London City Airport
Paris Charles de Gaulle
purchased,
a free flight offered.

Let's go!

For an AirJetCard of 5 journeys bought before the 31/12/95.
Contact your travel agent or your AirJetClub in London 0171 476 6000.

AIR JET
CHANGING AIR TRAVEL. Groupe Jet Services

Matthew Parris



■ In guiding the world's investors, I preferred my hunches to any clever-clever analysis

You cannot, it is true, do everything from first principles. Brain surgery is a case in point. Yet by not knowing too much we can get things right amazingly often.

In saying so, one does court the danger of sounding either like one of those saloon bar "university of life" bores, or, worse, like Mystic Meg. But what the hell! It's near Christmas. Let us dispense with judiciousness. I've made a few pretty good predictions in the past year, all of them based on ignorance.

For the past six years I have written a weekly politics column for *The Investors' Chronicle*. This month I will quit, for fear of getting into a rut, but it's been interesting and I've been fortunate to write it.

One Monday morning in May, it struck me that John Major might call a leadership election. I had heard him say, many months beforehand, and in a fed-up way, that for three-ha'pence he'd throw in the towel. Of course this is the kind of thing bosses do say all the time, but on this occasion I somehow felt that he meant it. These impressions are worth more than a hundred in-depth political briefings. This one came by chance to me — privileged, it is true, to be there — but hunches come to us all if we would only notice and seize them.

> When you want to know whether it is going to rain, look at the sky, not Ceefax

Major was in a "stuff it" sort of mood. The Tory Right was already beginning its wretched stirrings towards a leadership challenge in the autumn. Putting myself in his shoes, it seemed to me that almost anything would look preferable to carrying on as it was. So I wrote in that column that a resignation by the Prime Minister was, if not a likelihood, very much on the cards. The resignation occurred a few weeks later. Whether any readers noticed the coincidence is doubtful, and who cares? The guess was based not on skill or intelligence, but on looking at the sky rather than Ceefax to see whether it was about to rain.

Just stand back. Simon Jenkins did so on this page on Saturday, when he observed that those with an interest in the Ulster "peace process" need, paradoxically, to ensure it does not "move" too fast — towards the iceberg which (when you think about it you must know) lies ahead.

The same method helped me (and, no doubt, millions of Britons who do not write for newspapers) to guess that the last Budget would prove a damp squib. My prognosis (also for *The Investors' Chronicle*), ten days in advance, was spot-on. It was made without special knowledge, just by avoiding cleverness.

The week before the Budget, any political columnist is under pressure to write about the Chancellor's options. But this columnist was at a disadvantage. He does not have lunch with Cabinet ministers, and is so far from understanding finance or economics that he cannot read a balance sheet, let alone expatiate on monetary theory. My school class in Nicosia was just about to learn the decimal system when the family left Cyprus. My class in Southern Rhodesia had just learnt decimals when we arrived. I'm still trying to catch up. Was I a man to guess the shape of a Budget?

But then I thought, "hold on. *One*: Peter Riddell says that Clarke has little room for prudent manoeuvre, and Riddell's a wise owl. *Two*: Clarke's no fool either and must know the Tories are going to lose the next election, come what may. He doesn't want to go down as a failed shyster. The Prime Minister must think similarly."

Reader: far from submitting this line of reasoning as evidence of genius, I submit it as the sort of low-grade, practical common sense available to almost everyone *except* a high-powered, force-fed lobby commentator. If you were the outgoing chief accountant of a small company, would you really choose to imperil its future by adopting a plan designed to win cheers for a few weeks, and make you a clown to the next generation? You might be looking to them for a job.

So I wrote the column saying as much, questioning the wisdom and even the cunning of a "giveaway" or "smoke-out-Labour" strategy, and guessing that Mr Clarke would spurn the cheers of the crowd. It wasn't, I repeat, an especially clever guess: just obvious. An awful lot of things are.

So obvious, in fact, that I'm bored by the future already. Tony Blair is going to be elected, probably in 1997, with a good majority. The electorate are not fools and already suspect him to be a magician with no rabbit in his hat, but they will be impatient after 17 years for a new stage act, and he will provide them with that at least. After a while, when it has been shown that Mr Blair's hat indeed contains no rabbit, he will be roundly booed on all sides. And the pantomime will continue. The Tories will have a devil of a row, then elect another moderate as their leader. Devolution plans for Scotland and Wales, which Blair may yet ditch, will otherwise degenerate into the mother of all chaos . . .

. . . And the show will go on. There's a sort of thrill in observing, ringside, for *The Times*. Standing back for *The Investors' Chronicle* to survey the wider scene has been a privilege, but a strangely bleak one.

The strikes and violence in France are a portent of wider unrest as European competitiveness falls

A whiff of French revolution

Winston Churchill called the first volume of his war memoirs *The Gathering Storm*. All last week I was astonished, and rather alarmed, by the lack of British interest in the gathering storm in France, surely the most threatening event in Western Europe during the 1990s.

France, after all, is the heartland of our Europe. It is not as powerful economically as Germany, but is the creator of the European Union, in many ways the political leader of post-war development, the second largest economy and one of Europe's two international military powers (the other being Britain). What happens to France happens to Europe as a whole. French interests are not separable from British, despite a rivalry which has existed for nearly a thousand years.

In recent weeks, I have been receiving increasingly alarming reports from my friends who observe French politics. One told me he thought there would be revolution on the streets within six months; something like that is already happening. Another estimated that in a general election, M Le Pen and the neo-fascists would win about 30 per cent of the vote. Unemployment is close to an eighth of the working population. In the suburbs around Paris, about 30 per cent of young men are unemployed. There is deep discontent among the large student population. Race relations with the Arab community are far worse than anything in Britain, and have been inflamed by Arab terrorism. Both the President, Jacques Chirac, and the Prime Minister, Alain Juppé, are very unpopular. Their approval ratings in the polls are even lower than John Major's.

I was hearing these warnings before the events of last week, and similar warnings have appeared in British newspapers, but they have attracted surprisingly little attention.

There seems to be a growing momentum of disorder. The railways have been strikebound for nearly two weeks already. Power workers have struck and plan to strike again. The post office, telecommunications, hospitals, universities, airlines, even the tax authorities and the Bank of France are involved in strikes or the threat of strikes. These strikes have majority public support. There have also been demonstrations, car-burnings and tear gas.

Le Figaro ran a leading article last week which compared the present situation to the revolutionary years of 1789, 1830, 1848 and 1968; the article blames the situation on "corporatism and archaism", as well as on "the excessive caution of the ruling classes". Faced with growing social upheaval they say nothing, as if already admitting defeat. If the strike does defeat the Government, it will be a disaster for France; it will leave a political vacuum which will probably be filled from the right.

Part of the problem, but only a part, is that France did not use the 1980s to carry out the reforms that Margaret Thatcher wrought in Britain. The French public sector and its unions are still much as they were in Britain in 1979. France also has an overload of welfare costs, and M Juppé's proposed reforms are overdue. Yet the causes go wider than the public-sector unions or the reform of the French welfare state.

The French "nervous breakdown", to use *Le Figaro*'s phrase, is part of a wider European disease. For at least 20 years, the Western European economy has been sliding backwards, when measured against the rest of the world — against America in technology, Japan in competitiveness and the rest of Asia in labour costs. By 1990, Europe had become the high-cost, high-unemployment, high-tax, high-public-expenditure region of the world. Even our technology is of the middle order. The

William Rees-Mogg

European Community, which had been designed to make Europe more competitive, was already moving towards a bureaucratic model based on those old European *dirigistes* Bismark and Colbert. To some of us, this nightmare of European decline was already apparent by 1990. The work of Jacques Delors — surely the most destructive statesman of recent European history — culminated in the Treaty of Maastricht, which made Europe still more corporatist, archaic and uncompetitive. Maastricht put us all in lock-step towards the precipice, and has destroyed or is destroying most of the Governments foolish enough to sign it.

The electorates of Europe saw what was happening, but the Governments did not. The French electorate can hardly be blamed. Since 1990, whenever they have had the chance to throw out a French government they have taken it, and all the administrations have thoroughly deserved to be thrown out.

In Britain, John Major's administration has never recovered from the recession, which was deepened by trying to remain in the exchange-rate mechanism, nor from the humiliating way it finally left the ERM. The latest opinion poll shows a Labour lead of 57 to 25, which means that in an early general election, the Tories could not be sure of winning 100 seats. It would now take a swing of 12 per cent to restore the Tories even to their 1945 position. The Governments of Italy and Spain face political and economic problems which are far beyond them, and have the added handicap of widespread corruption.

The Maastricht treaty was a poison pill. It committed the European nations to an attempt to create a federal Europe, more than halfway to a single European state, despite the accelerating economic decline relative to the rest of the world. Worse than that, the single currency project committed those nations that wished to participate, and particularly France, to deflation in order to bring their finances into line with the rules of the treaty and the conditions laid down by the Bundesbank.

The single currency project has reinforced the destruction of competitiveness and jobs caused by the overvaluation of the ERM. The lack of competitiveness has already caused high unemployment, and that could still go much higher.

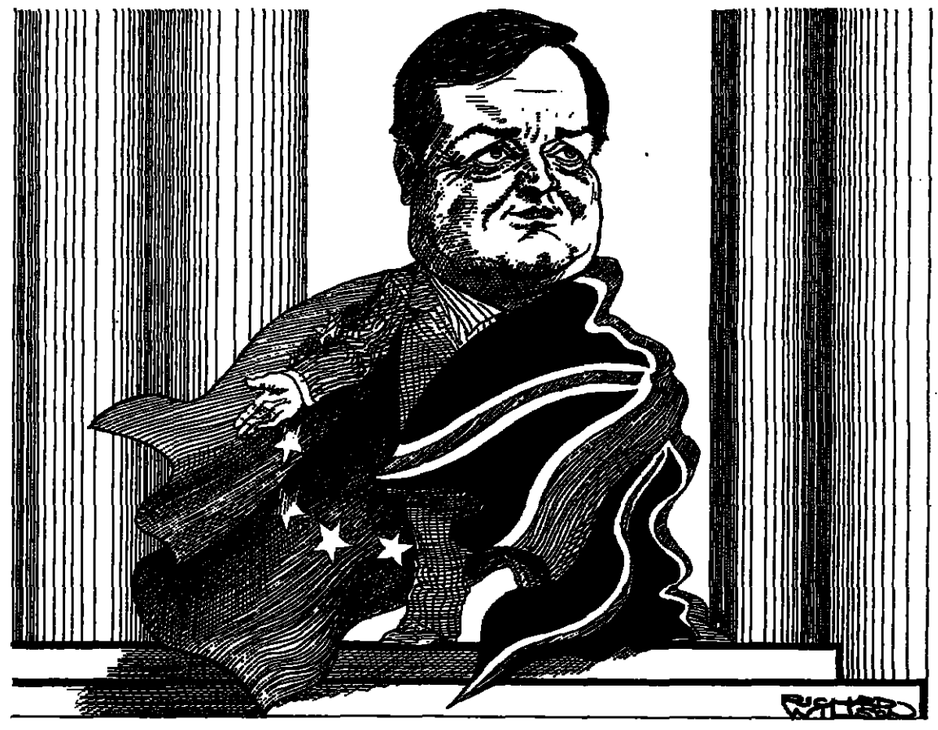
The French strikes are as much a protest against the *franc fort* policy as against Alain Juppé's proposed welfare reforms. The whole French state machine has become attached to a deflationary policy designed to maintain an overvalued currency in a period of high unemployment. The French electorate voted out the socialists; then they voted out M Balladur; they voted in Jacques Chirac because he promised simultaneously to reduce unemployment and to maintain an overvalued franc. That the French voted for such incompatible commitments only proves that they are as bad at economics as their President. Yet they have done all that voting can do, and the political class has refused to listen.

As a result they are taking to the streets as they did in 1789, when they thought an earlier French élite was refusing to listen. Louis XVI was not much good at economics himself.

The deep discontent of Europe in decline was always bound to vent itself. France is a sort of Vesuvius for Europe. When the lava has to find a way out, Paris is the natural volcano. In Britain, the electorate is waiting solemnly but more politely for the next election to show its full feelings. In Italy, almost any political convulsion is possible. Germany alone still seems to be at peace with itself, under the bull-like rule of Chancellor Kohl. But Germany has the same problem of competitiveness, the same high taxes, overregulation, demotivation and high unemployment. The events of Paris will not pass unnoticed in Berlin.

Taking on the right wing

Peter Riddell says Mr Clarke used the Budget to reassert his brand of Toryism



Kenneth Clarke will not quietly acquiesce in the take-over of the Tory party by the nationalist Right. His decision publicly to raise the standard in defence of "a modern welfare state" is matched by an equal determination to prevent any further shift in European policy towards the sceptics. A curious autumn ritual has developed over the past two years. At the party conference, the running is made by the Euro-sceptic Right; then, six weeks later, the values of one-nation, pro-European Toryism are reasserted in the Budget. One is words, the other is action. Mr Clarke's priorities will affect the Cabinet battles of the next year over the Tory manifesto. At stake is the direction of the party after the election, win or lose.

No one can accuse Mr Clarke of obfuscation or inconsistency. He is the leading representative — survivor might be a better term — of the Tory generation which embraced the post-war settlement, indeed thrived under it. He believes in a health service free at the point of use, in state education, and is committed to state pensions and child benefit as a genuine safety-net. He considers advocates of a minimalist State, several of whom sit alongside him on the Government front bench, to be living in "cloud cuckoo land".

Although he favours private pensions, he is dismissive of an insurance system, like American health provision, as being neither electorally nor practically attractive. The public will not pay for partial, and often expensive, private provision in preference to state services which they regard as free and which they have paid for in taxes.

Mr Clarke believes this is compatible with an internationally competitive economy. As he said in a key passage in his Budget speech, the British people will be more willing to "embrace change in a flexible way" if they know that "high-quality schools, healthcare and a safety-net for the unemployed, the disabled and the old are there if and when they need them".

That does not mean accepting the steady growth of public spending as a share of national income, as in the 1960s and 1970s. Mr Clarke is an enthusiastic member of the managerial efficiency school, along with Michael Heseltine and younger Cabinet members such as Stephen Dorrell, who is now establishing himself as Health Secretary. As Mr Clarke himself showed at Health, Education and the Home Office, he

RIDDELL ON MONDAY

is keen on shaking-up Whitehall to reduce administration. An "affordable welfare state" involves not just bringing costs under tight control, but also limiting entitlements. The growth of social security spending, for example, has been reduced from 3 to 1 per cent a year in real terms.

In the short run, this approach means accepting the sort of balanced package outlined last week — more money (though not much more) for education, health and the police, coupled with modest tax cuts. Mr Clarke believes that safeguarding public services is what people want, and a tighter squeeze on spending to finance bigger tax cuts now would have been seen, and rejected, as a blatant electoral bribe. Labour strategists were, nonetheless, relieved that the cut in the basic rate was just 1p, rather than, say, 3p. The populist Right has already started complaining about the Budget, but they really have no alternative to offer. They would be the first to protest about lower budgets for schools and hospitals, and Mr Clarke has done as much as, and probably more than is credible to cut running costs and "waste".

The real vulnerablity of Mr Clarke's approach is that it involves running fast to stand still. The Chancellor hopes that public spending can be held to a normal ceiling of 40 per cent of national income, though it could rise higher in a recession. But as I have argued before, this means that there is little scope for any sustained cut in the tax burden — more likely a rise as the Budget Red Book concedes — while there is likely to be unsatisfied demand for services. That is why more radical solutions such as increasing private provision for care of the elderly and further education have to be considered.

Crucial though these issues are, the EU remains the litmus test for Tory loyalties. With a touch of deliberate provocation, Mr Clarke noted last Tuesday that Britain's public borrowing would be close to the "Maastricht reference level" (for fulfilling the conditions for monetary union) next year and would fall well below it in later years. The Chancellor believes there is a more than even chance that Germany and France will press ahead with a single currency in four years' time or so. There could be strong attractions for Britain to join, provided that economic convergence is genuine.

While still contemptuous of the sceptics' worries about sovereignty, Mr Clarke has stuck publicly to the Cabinet's uneasy truce of leaving the question open. However, he remains adamantly opposed to suggestions floated by some in the Prime Minister's circle, as well as by the sceptics, that the Tory manifesto should promise that Britain would not join any monetary union in the lifetime of the next Parliament. If not in the next Parliament, when? Moreover, any change in the current position would signal a victory for the sceptics, and might make any agreement over the inter-governmental conference harder.

During his interview with *The Times* on Saturday, Mr Heseltine was more coy, retreating behind references to collective decisions. But from his lofty perch as Deputy Prime Minister, he is, in practice, an ally of Mr Clarke and is certainly seen as such in No 10. The Heseltine-Clarke axis is central not only to the running of the Government, but to its strategy. Together they are a vital shield for Mr Major and a counterweight to the nationalist Right in his careful balancing of the party. Together they can veto a shift to an outright Eurosceptic position, at least before the next election.

Train set

AFTER COMPLETING his latest film, Sir Peter Hall may have taken time at the weekend to reflect on an old thespian adage and amend it slightly: never work with children, animals — or trains.

Last week he was shooting the final scene of his new drama for Channel 4, an adaptation of Caryl Phillips' novel *The Final Passage*, about the migration from the Caribbean to Britain in the 1950s. The climactic set-piece took place in the cavernous grandeur of St Pancras Station, which was teeming with extras. A modern train had been painstakingly daubed in the green livery of a Southern Region locomotive of the time. "But," says a Channel 4 source, "for reasons of economy, only the side of the train which would be seen was painted."

But the train that appeared was not showing its best side. It chugged into the station looking suspiciously blue and modern. "There was all this bright BR livery and complete consternation on the platform." Eventually the station-master stepped in and said that we could turn the train round and bring it back in the right way.

But this wasn't easy either. They had to take it all the way up to Derby overnight to turn it round and bring it back. Sir Peter kept remarkably calm in the circumstances, but you would be best advised not to mention a certain Northern town to him.

● *Perhaps it was just an unusual new pronunciation, but throughout his interview yesterday for* On the Record *on BBC1, Jimmy Goldsmith, the founder of the Referendum Party, referred to the hated town of Maastricht as "Mousetrick".*



● *A radical departure at the Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew: Christmas trees are to be sold for the first time. Plants and trees have not been sold in the past because the gardens are primarily for scientific research. But following the one-off successful sale of orchids at a festival earlier this year, the Gardens have decided to branch out, with Norway spruce and Nordman fir.*

Pink perking

SPAM, the processed meat born of wartime austerity and endured by generations of children in soggy school fritters, is to be given an image overhaul. Newforge Foods, the Merseyside producer of Spam has engaged the services of an advertising agency for the £500,000 task of promoting the pink meat, which is said, oddly enough, to be Baroness Thatcher's favourite comestible and comfort food.

A spokesman for Advertising Principles is unable to release precise details of the image to be promoted in a forthcoming TV campaign, but says guardedly: "Let's accept that it's a fun product but also a quality product. We are not trying to make it fashionable just more popular."

Boo to you too

DOMINIC LAWSON, Editor of *The Sunday Telegraph*, has taken his revenge on Alan Clark for his less than kind comments in *The Spectator* recently, where he referred to Lawson's "loathsome, sneering features" and called him "slitty eyed".

But yesterday, Lawson was more restrained in reply. In his column, he discusses Clark's much-vaunted desire to return to politics in the light of his part in the arms-to-Iraq affair and the Matrix Churchill trial.

Urging selection committees to treat Clark's *c.v.* with caution, he goes on to mention Clark's "adolescent bragging about his serial adultery in his memoirs", and describes it as "not very elegant or intelligent". He ends with a reference to Clark's well-preserved looks, but warns that "before selecting Dorian Gray, it would be a good idea to look in the attic".

Last post

AS A FESTIVE flourish, the managing director of Royal Mail, Peter Howarth, is sending a Christmas card to every household in the land. Some of these have already flopped onto mats, and the season's greetings, featuring the traditional robin, include the latest recommended posting dates for Christmas cards in the UK and abroad.

Europe is included, as are Asia and Australia. But of Africa there is not a word. "Unfortunate", says a representative from the Royal Mail, "but we were only including the popular destinations."

Teed off

ALISTAIR COOKE, the veteran broadcaster and journalist, has finally agreed to authorise a biography of himself. Nick Clarke, Radio 4's *World at One* presenter, persuaded him over a number of months of the seriousness of his intentions. "The first time I waylaid him by hanging around in the corridor of Broadcasting House and nobbled him as he came out after recording *Letter from America* one day," he admits.



Cooke in a beaverskin topper

But it was a mutual love of golf that finally won Cooke over. "We had a long discussion about the eighth hole at the Royal West Norfolk Golf Club, which we both know well," Clarke explains. "It's played across a creek and I always lose my ball in the water when the tide is in. I admitted to him I always play it when the water is out, and he was sympathetic."

Orchard gains

A POMOLOGIST PARSON, the Rev Donald Johnson, who has 40 varieties of apple growing in his vicarage garden, has tracked down a rare and almost extinct old apple with the curious name of Sykehouse Russet.

Johnson says that he took advantage of the clerical, er, grapevine in his fruitful pursuit. "A monk in Carlisle told me there was a tree growing near Doncaster," he said at his vicarage in Funtington near Chichester.

Now he has taken grafts from the rare old tree and sent the cuttings for propagation in the Royal Horticultural Society Gardens at Wisley. He is now hot under the dog-collar in pursuit of the splendidly named Petworth Nonpareil.

P·H·S

هكذا من الاصل

FRENCH WITH TEARS

Juppé is asking too big a sacrifice for monetary union

The strikes and street disturbances that have spread across France in the past fortnight have developed the infectiousness and unpredictability of an elemental force. Protesters' grievances, real and imagined, seem to have nothing more in common than a generalised sense of outrage against the State. The French political élite seems stunned by the sheer irrationality of these protests.

The French media are full of comparisons with the *événements* of 1968, when students and workers suddenly took to the streets for no very obvious reason. But perhaps the more interesting comparison is one that springs to the British mind. Could this be a French version of the winter of discontent which paralysed Britain in 1979? Just as 1979 marked the end of the failed post-War consensus politics in Britain and ushered in the Thatcher revolution, could these strikes deliver a final blow to the economic, social and foreign-policy consensus which is now failing France?

Since the mid-1980s French economic and foreign policies have been subordinated to one overriding objective: the creation of an economic and monetary union with Germany by 1999. But recently this ten-year programme has seemed under growing threat. President Chirac was elected in April on a platform of promises to stimulate the economy, reduce unemployment, promote social solidarity and put France's national interests before European concerns.

After his election, France's fitness to enter a European monetary union was increasingly questioned. The relentless growth of public borrowing as the French economy suffered from the deflationary effects of the franc's link to the mark was making it ever less plausible that France would meet the Maastricht conditions in time. As the vultures gathered in the foreign exchange markets, M Chirac was invited for a firm chat by Chancellor Kohl. He was told he must either abandon all hope of monetary union in 1999 or take drastic action to cut the budget deficit, regardless of the political and economic costs.

This was the background against which Alain Juppé, the Prime Minister, announced his radical welfare reforms two weeks ago. The reforms were indeed economically necessary and would have deserved a fair wind from the public had they been part of a serious policy to tackle unemployment and accelerate growth. In France today, however, these reforms will have the opposite effect. Tax increases and cuts in welfare spending will deflate the economy still further because they are combined with an over-valued exchange rate and interest rates determined by the Bundesbank. Far from being a victory for economic prudence, M Juppé's reforms look like the latest in a long series of national economic humiliations, aptly described as a monetary Vichy.

The sense that a foreign body is imposing national hardship is probably a powerful aggravating factor in today's French protests, just as it was in Britain in the late 1970s when the Labour Government was under the sway of the International Monetary Fund. If people are asked to accept sacrifices, they must believe that the interests of their own nation are being served. French workers do not want to lose their pension rights in the interests of Franco-German monetary partnership and European construction.

The French Government could revive the French economy and thereby win the people's support for necessary fiscal reforms. But that would require M Chirac to inaugurate a national economic policy independent of Germany, to abandon the *franc fort* and shelve the objective of monetary union. For France that would imply a political revolution on the same scale as Britain saw after 1979.

BOSNIAN BUSINESS

As the euphoria fades, the gritty work begins

President Clinton flew back to Washington yesterday after sailing across Europe's skies on a breeze of approval for his deft handling of both Bosnia and Ireland. There are a few clouds visible, but they are small and distant. Mr Clinton surprised his European partners and perhaps himself by finding his touch in foreign policy at the end of his third year as President.

But the hard part is just beginning. American diplomacy has produced agreed statements of intent on Bosnia, Ireland and on revitalising US-EU co-operation. Carrying out the Dayton agreement on Bosnia, though, will impose the stiffest test of co-ordination between the two continents since the end of the Cold War. The practical value of this week's rhetoric now has to be proved in the cold valleys of the Posavina corridor.

The Dayton agreement was concluded in America and not in Europe because of one simple, stark fact. None of the planned or proposed military interventions in Bosnia designed to separate combatants has been conceivable without American soldiers.

It follows from this that if and when American troops leave Bosnia after 12 months, the use of force for peace will be over. Two principles should therefore dominate the next few weeks as plans are finalised, parliamentary and congressional approvals sought and the first troops and equipment dispatched.

First, the American, British and French Governments must share a realistic approach to the military risks they confront and be steadfast in resisting the inevitable calls to quit before their deadline expires. To date, 214 United Nations soldiers have been killed in Bosnia and nearly 1,500 have been wounded. While the combatants may be less hostile to peacekeepers than they were in Somalia, risk of casualties remains. The terrain is rough, the weather will soon be at its worst and there are 80,000 well-armed Serbian soldiers in the field. The Nato mission in Bosnia cannot be a "zero-death" operation. Leaders who fail to point out this simple truth will regret the evasion before long.

Secondly, the work of rebuilding the shattered infrastructure of Bosnia must be tackled in a hurry. The EU is overbidding its hand in asking America to contribute a one-third of reconstruction funds in addition to a military commitment already costing the President much of his depleted political capital in Congress. Brussels should start trying to raise more money from elsewhere.

But the greatest danger faced by Nato's Operation Joint Endeavour is a breakdown of co-ordination or communication between military and civilian work. Military planning outstrips civil reconstruction but neither can work without the other. Under the Dayton agreement, Nato troops will protect refugees if available and if requested. But the soldiers will not be rebuilding houses or laying drains. They are not to be responsible for repatriating people, arresting war criminals or even for mine clearance beyond the requirements of their own safety. The military operation, despite the vast quantities of political energy needed to set it up, is a necessary but not sufficient condition for a return to something like normal life. This week's London conference on the reconstruction effort in Bosnia needs at least as much effort as the breakthrough in Dayton.

DINNER SERVICE

Restaurant-goers should stand up for their rights

British diners must be among the softest touches in the world. Terrified of being seen to make a scene and terminally embarrassed about matters monetary, they are easily inveigled into tipping twice over. Too often, a service charge is added to the bill, but the "total" space left blank at the bottom of the credit card slip. Now the Earl of Bradford, a restaurateur himself, is introducing a private member's Bill to force restaurants to include service in their menu prices.

Restaurant service charges are one of the anomalies of British life. We do not tip the shoe shop assistant who totters up from the storeroom with boxes piled high and waits patiently while each style is dismissed as not quite right. Nor do we tip the helpful librarian, the barman or the electrician. The service sector is huge, yet the proportion that wins tips is tiny and somewhat arbitrary.

It is also true that British restaurant prices are much more confusing than those in, say, France. Knowing that most prospective diners scanning a menu will look simply at the costs of a starter and a main course, restaurant managements load the eventual bill by adding "cover" and service charges, not to speak of extortionate prices for a bottle of mineral water or a side order of vegetables. The cover charge is supposed to represent the cost of linen and cutlery; yet a hotel would not dream of charging extra for sheets and lampshades. And many people would argue that good service is as important a component of a restaurant as good food. It ought to be part of the package.

There is also the question of how much of the tip ends up in the pockets of the waiter or waitress. Few are given the exact amount that each of their tables has left them. The least scrupulous managements swallow the lot. Others divide the total between the waiting and kitchen staff according to job description and seniority. Some waiters are allowed to keep cash tips but never see the extra that is added to credit card payments.

Supporters of Lord Bradford's Bill argue that, when conscientious restaurants include service in their prices, they look as if they are more expensive than their competitors. The bad will always drag down the good unless uniformity is imposed upon them by law. But is legislation really the right answer to these problems? In a country already overburdened by regulation, a strong case has to be made before more is introduced.

All-inclusive prices would remove much of the discretionary element that currently exists. Although diners need nerves of steel to contest an "optional" service charge, they are perfectly within their rights to do so if the service is bad. And where service is not included they can graduate their tips accordingly. Under Lord Bradford's regime, they would be able to tip more but not less than the service included in the price.

Hardened consumers may want to demand an assurance from the manager that their waiter will see the proceeds. And they should complain vigorously and noisily if they are pressured to tip twice over. But it is time for diners to grow up and assert their rights; not for the State to take charge of this essentially private transaction.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

1 Pennington Street, London E1 9XN Telephone 0171-782 5000

Budget effects on Whitehall, marriage, foreign aid, arts

From the General Secretary of the National Union of Civil and Public Servants

Sir, The Chancellor's announcement of major cuts in Whitehall spending (reports and leading article, November 29; letters, December 1) will have little effect in Whitehall itself.

Few civil servants are mandarins at departmental headquarters, circulating elegantly worded memoranda to each other, and few even work in London. That's why it is easier for ministers to indulge their rhetoric on the need to cut Whitehall bureaucracy than it is to specify which public services will disappear or be run down and which public servants are no longer necessary.

Since 1979 the Civil Service has suffered wave after wave of efficiency scrutinies, running-costs curbs, the introduction of private-sector accounting and financial procedures, devolution of budgetary control, break-up of national pay and personnel structures, market testing and privatisation. It is simply not true that massive economies are waiting to be made through the elimination of "waste".

The £860 million of cuts should be translated into angry queues at passport offices with fewer staff, longer waiting times for driving tests because of a shortage of examiners, revenue owed but uncollected by fewer VAT and Inland Revenue staff, and the effect of a slower response-time by fewer coastguards.

The Chancellor has a duty to tell the public in advance just where the cuts will land and exactly how departments will, as he said, protect "the front line of public-service delivery". Failure to do so will reveal his announcement as the cynical recipe of vote-buying and political prejudice that it was.

Yours sincerely,
J. D. SHELDON,
General Secretary,
The National Union of Civil and Public Servants,
New Bridgewater House,
5-13 Great Suffolk Street, SE1.
December 1.

From the General Director of Care

Sir, Last summer Dr Habgood, then Archbishop of York, and representatives of Care went to see the Chancellor to ask him to restore the value of the married couples allowance to its value in 1990 (report, July 27).

The increase announced in this week's Budget, the first since 1990, does represent a significant change of government policy and we are very grateful. But when the figures are looked at more closely, it is clear that the increase does little for families: it reduces the tax bill by only 20p per week.

Only three weeks ago the Prime Minister said, in answer to a parliamentary written question (*Hansard*, November 6, cols 547-8), that the Government was fully committed to supporting the institution of marriage and believed that married couples should receive recognition in the tax system.

The Chancellor, in his Budget speech, said it was a myth that the tax system penalises marriage. What is not a myth is that the tax paid by married couples has risen in recent years much faster than that paid by other people. Couples where only one spouse is earning have been particularly badly hit.

The Treasury's own figures show that the tax burden on a young married couple with two children, where only one of the parents is earning, has more than doubled over the last 30 years; and this is even after child benefit is taken into account. If the Government really believes in the institution of marriage and the need to support families this inequity must be corrected.

Yours faithfully,
CHARLIE COLCHESTER,
General Director, Care,
(Christian Action Research and Education),
53 Romney Street, SW1.
December 1.

From the Director General of Save the Children and others

Sir, Your Budget report of a 5 per cent cash cut to overseas development aid in the Chancellor's Budget is a harsh blow to people in the poorest countries. Coming on top of three years of budget freeze, the slashing of another £130 million is a virtual renunciation of John Major's 1992 pledge in Rio that Britain was on the road to devoting 0.7 per cent of its GNP to development assistance. Even before the latest cut the amount achieved was less than half of that.

The Chancellor announced that "the planned allocation for bilateral [country to country] aid is likely to be little changed from that set out in last year's departmental report." However, that already includes a drop of £81 million by 1996-97, and we are still concerned that its level may continue to fall in future years, thereby damaging essential programmes of long-term development in water, health and family-income generation.

The bulk of the Chancellor's new cut will fall on Britain's contributions to multilateral aid, which includes the World Bank, regional development banks and the European Union development budgets. This could harm vital schemes which provide poor countries with much-needed access to funds for investment in the development of their economies and people.

Yours faithfully,
MIKE AARONSON
(Save the Children),
JOHN BATTEN (Actionaid),
DAVID BRYER (Oxfam),
RICHARD MILLER (Cafod),
MICHAEL TAYLOR (Christian Aid),
The Save the Children Fund,
17 Grove Lane, SE5.
December 1.

From Mr George J. Levy

Sir, With an average 3 per cent cut in grants to the museums and galleries announced in the Budget I believe that we now know the truth: contrary to all government promises, the Treasury is taking into account proceeds from the National Lottery to reduce core funding for the arts.

I suppose we should not be surprised; but how depressing.

Yours faithfully,
GEORGE J. LEVY,
H. Blairman & Sons Ltd,
119 Mount Street, W1.
November 30.

From Mr Robert Rhodes, QC

Sir, The Chancellor of the Exchequer has acted responsibly in refusing to put party politics before the good of the economy. He has produced a prudent Budget which is likely to result in an early cut in interest rates and has been criticised for this.

Had he produced an electioneering Budget with heavy tax cuts, he would have been excoriated by the Opposition. There could well have been a threatened run on sterling, resulting in an increase in interest rates and substantial damage to the economy.

It seems that Mr Clarke cannot win.

Yours faithfully,
ROBERT RHODES,
3 King's Bench Walk North,
Temple, EC4.
December 1.

Shell's operations in Ogoniland

From the Executive Director of Greenpeace and others

Sir, According to a report in your Business section of November 13, Shell denies responsibility for environmental devastation in the Ogoni area of Nigeria. We find this extraordinary.

This week some of us met with Dr Owens Wiwa, a medical doctor and brother of the executed Ken Saro-Wiwa, after his escape from Nigeria. Dr Wiwa has been able to give us an extensive first-hand account of the operations by Shell and the Nigerian military in the Niger Delta. He assures us that the oil operations are causing public health problems and environmental destruction. In some conditions, for example, people suffer considerable respiratory distress from the choking thick black soot associated with flaring.

We have photographs of flaring in the Delta region taken as recently as October 1995. Visiting film crews and photographers have also documented dense smoke and extensive oil spills on the ground, in water and in the soil. People have died opposing the pollution. Meanwhile, Shell is focussing on other issues, such as population pressure, deforestation or even "over-farming".

There is clearly a need for an independent international mission to Ogoniland to establish the true extent of environmental damage and, just as important, to allow the people who live there to communicate freely to the rest of the world.

This mission should be permitted to move freely throughout the region, without military escorts, and have unrestricted access to local people. It should be completely independent of Shell, and would particularly need to visit the pipelines flowing through Ogoniland. The mission could include parliamentarians, scientists, representatives of non-governmental organisations, journalists and others.

Yours faithfully,
PETER MELCHETT
(Greenpeace),
JONATHON PORRITT
(Forum for the Future),
ANITA RODDICK
(The Body Shop),
CHARLES SECRETT
(Friends of the Earth),
c/o Greenpeace,
Canonbury Villas, N1.
December 1.

EU's attitudes to Central Europe — and Britain's to EU

From Mr Alan Fulwood

Sir, Your leading article on the future relationship of the countries of Central Europe with the EU ("Bad Europeans", November 27) highlights the tendency of some EU countries to delay its enlargement eastwards.

Following the end of centralised communist control, the countries of Central Europe took the necessary political decisions to re-establish democracies which have survived an inevitable period of austerity. Great economic and political strides have been made right across the region but, after six years, the people are still looking westwards for support.

Countries which, like the Czech Republic, had strong trading economies before the war are hoping desperately that this trade can again be freed from its present restraints. The Czech Republic has cleared its external debts and established a convertible currency. It has established a free market economy that has already met the criteria that the EU has set out for its member countries for currency union.

Unless the countries of Central Europe can be given real hope of membership of the EU before the end of the millennium, then pressures will develop within them for a return to old systems. A political and economic vacuum can only produce instability.

These countries cannot look eastwards. They must look west, and they must have real hope. Isolation is dangerous not only for Central Europe but for the whole of Europe.

Yours faithfully,
ALAN FULWOOD
22 Trelawny Way,
Bembridge, Isle of Wight.

From Mr Roy Perry, MEP for Wight and Hampshire South (European People's Party Parliamentary Group (Conservative))

Sir, Christina Speight (letter, November 28) was correct to point out that the UK Independence Party is committed to British withdrawal from the European Union. Unlike other opponents of Europe, they are presenting a consistent position — albeit totally misjudged.

Just what sort of relationship it is imagined we might subsequently renegotiate is not so clear. Our influence within Europe has to be greater as a member state than as an outside suppliant.

It is also worth recalling that when the UK Independence Party stood in the European elections in 1994 it was roundly defeated. Electors overwhelmingly voted for one of the three main parties, all of which are committed to British membership of the European Union.

Whilst the turnout in the European elections was lower than many would have wished, there is no case for assuming that those who abstained would now vote in a referendum.

Yours faithfully,
ROY PERRY,
European Parliament,
97-113 Rue Belliard,
B-1047, Brussels.
November 28.

From Mr Julian Williams

Sir, It is surely a piece of wishful thinking by the EU commissioner, Yves-Thibault de Silguy ("The case for EMU", November 27), to suggest that people will not cross borders to seek well-paid work. If this were true we would hardly need immigration laws at all.

This wishy-washy approach underlines how little we can trust decisions made in Brussels, where the spotlight of public debate and scrutiny is firmly switched off, and highlights the danger of not writing our laws at Westminster, where the issues are debated openly in a language we can all understand.

Yours sincerely,
JULIAN WILLIAMS,
Two Bad Mice Publishers,
95e Hornsey Lane, N6.
November 28.

Costs against JPs

From Mr John Williams, JP

Sir, I am dismayed that lay magistrates in Lincoln and elsewhere have recently been ordered to pay costs, following successful appeals against their decisions ("Should JPs be made to pay costs?", Law, November 28).

If similar cases should arise, and if it were to be proved that the Lord Chancellor's local advisory committee had failed in its duty to warn the magistrates concerned, at the time of their interviews as lay candidates for the bench, that they would have no immunity against such costs, I suggest that the magistrates should sue the committee for reimbursement.

Yours faithfully,
JOHN WILLIAMS
(Treasurer),
British Juvenile and Family Courts Society,
44 Queen Anne Street, W1.
November 30.

From Mr Cedric Hayes, JP

Sir, There is a growing tendency to appoint stipendiary magistrates to metropolitan benches; this results from increasing workloads and difficulties in recruiting lay justices.

Threats of punitive costs, with no guarantee of reimbursement, will further hamper efforts to maintain our numbers. If stipendiaries, who sit full-time and deal with many more cases, feel similarly threatened, summary justice in England and Wales could be halted or seriously protracted.

Yours faithfully,
CEDRIC HAYES,
14 Thurleigh Road,
Didsbury, Manchester.
November 29.

'Flying bishops'

From the Provost of Leicester Cathedral

Sir, I thought that the brief for the provincial visitors, or "flying bishops" as they are popularly known, was to give pastoral support to the Christian people who cannot accept the ordination of women to the priesthood — not to create schism and further unhappiness within the Church, as has resulted from recent utterances of Edwin Barnes, Suffragan Bishop of Richborough (report, November 20, later editions).

At the time of the vote, in 1992, I was unhappy about women becoming priests; but as Provost of Leicester I preach in parishes throughout the diocese served by men and women. In those where women are priests-in-charge I have never heard a word of criticism from any of the parishioners.

Whilst the suffragan bishop might feel there is growing opposition to the decision of the General Synod, I also sense a growing belief that "flying bishops" are a theological nonsense — or, as a bishop wrote to me, "a prize piece of bad theology".

I certainly cannot reconcile the appointments with the spirit and unity of the New Testament Church.

Yours sincerely,
DEREK HOLE,
The Provost's House,
1 St Martin's East, Leicester.
November 27.

Fraud in Oxford

From Councillor Dr Phyllis Starkey

Sir, Andrew Turner comments (letter, November 28) on Oxford City Council's fraud detection. The Labour-controlled council has for several years invested resources in detection. The government incentive scheme has partly compensated for cuts forced by capping.

In 1993-94 the system returned a profit of £1,000 on £249,000 of detected fraud, achieved with existing resources. In 1994-95 resources were doubled and £62,000 profit was returned on £603,000 of fraud. For 1995-96 resources again doubled and we are forecasting a profit of £135,000 on £1 million of detected fraud. All this is achievable by reinvesting most of the profit in extra staff. Next year it is planned to increase the team by two full-time officers.

The council's personnel committee recently approved these plans by 11 to one: the dissenting vote was from the sole Tory representative!

Yours faithfully,
PHYLLIS M. STARKEY
(Chair of Finance,
Oxford City Council),
8 Walton Crescent, Oxford.
November 29.

Letters should carry a daytime telephone number. They may be faxed to 0171-782-5046.

Tigers behind bars

From Mr Dillwyn Miles

Sir, Bernard Levin ("Red in tooth and claw", November 24) quotes Isaiah as evidence on John Aspinall's side in the dispute over the security of tiger-keepers. He might also have reminded Mr Aspinall of the words attributed to Mr Barnum (or was it Mr Bailey?) who, when asked how his experiment of placing a lion and a lamb in the same cage was progressing, replied: "Quite successfully, except that, from time to time, one has to renew the lamb".

Yours faithfully,
DILLWYN MILES,
Hendre, 9 St Anthony's Way,
Haverfordwest, Pembrokeshire.

From Mr P. A. Jay

Sir, Many activities which involve some risk to human life are considered to be well worthwhile. These include sports such as mountaineering and motor racing which often bring valuable advances in knowledge as well as the sense of achievement to the participants.

John Aspinall's work with animals is entirely admirable. If he prefers the company of a gorilla to that of Bernard Levin I can only applaud his good taste.

Yours faithfully,
P. A. JAY,
176a Sutherland Avenue, W9.

Motorway mix

From the Reverend David Ashforth

Sir, It is no wonder your columnist was offered the bizarre choice of potatoes with risotto in a Forte Posthouse (City Diary, November 24).

If the M4 can wander as far north as Lancaster, anything can happen.

Yours faithfully,
D. E. ASHFORTH,
The Vicarage,
Balderstone, Blackburn, Lancashire.
November 24.

A record spied?

From Mr Theo Schofield

Sir, The combined ages of the four men whose obituaries you publish today — including the 106-year-old Charles Warrell, creator of the *I-Spy* books — add up to 372 years. Is this a record? If so, for how long?

Yours faithfully,
THEO SCHOFIELD,
Vane Cottage,
22 Cleveland Walk, Bath, Avon.
December 1.

COURT CIRCULAR

BUCKINGHAM PALACE
December 3: By command of The Queen, the Lord Lucas of Crudwell (Lord in Waiting) was present at Heathrow Airport, London this afternoon upon the departure of The President of the Azerbaijan Republic, and bade farewell to His Excellency on behalf of Her Majesty.

BUCKINGHAM PALACE
December 3: The Prince Edward this evening attended a Christmas Carol Concert given by the Epworth Choir in support of the Children's Hospice Appeal at the New Victoria Theatre, Woking, Surrey.

THATCHED HOUSE LODGE
RICHMOND PARK
December 3: Princess Alexandra, President, this evening attended a Carol Concert in aid of the Children's Country Holidays Fund at the Royal Naval College Chapel, Greenwich.

Today's royal engagements

The Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh will attend a dinner given by Her Majesty's Royal Air Force equerries at St James's Palace at 8.15.

Prince Edward, as trustee, will attend The Duke of Edinburgh's Award Christmas party at the London Hilton on Park Lane at 7.30.

The Duke of Kent, as Field Marshal, visited Headquarters Land Command, Erskine Barracks, Wilton, Salisbury, at 11.00.

Service dinner

35th (South Midland) Signal Regiment

The Deputy Lord Mayor and Lady Mayoress of Birmingham, the Signal Officer in Chief (Army), the Commander 143 (West Midland) Brigade and the Commander 11 (ARRC) Signal Brigade were the principal guests at the annual Officers' dinner of the 35th (South Midland) Signal Regiment (Volunteers) held on Saturday at the Council House, Birmingham. Lieutenant-Colonel R.M. Thurston, Royal Signals, presided.

Christening

The infant daughter of Mr and Mrs Michael Stokes was christened Anna Elizabeth Hamilton by Dom Gregory O'Brien, OSB, at Ampleforth Abbey on November 26. The godparents are Mr Duncan Wilson and Miss Katherine Stokes.

Birthdays today

Mr Farhad Afshar, neurosurgeon, 54; the Marchioness of Anglesey, 71; Sir Stephen Barrett, diplomat, 64; Lieutenant-Colonel Sir Simon Bland, former royal equerry, 72; Mr Raul Boesel, racing driver, 38; Miss Joan Brady, novelist, 56; Mr Jeff Bridges, actor, 46; Mrs Angela Browning, MP, 49; Miss Ann Christopher, sculptor, 48; Mr Ronnie Corbett, comedian, 65; Mr Hywel Davies, jockey, 39; Vice-Admiral Sir David Dobson, 57; Miss Deanna Durbin, former actress and singer, 74; Judge Head, 72; Mr Nigel Heslop, rugby league player, 32; Miss Anke Huber, tennis player, 21; Miss Gemma Jones, actress, 53; Mr Clive Leach, former chairman and chief executive, Tyne Tees Television, 61; Mrs Pamela W. Matthews, former Principal, Westfield College, 81; Mr Richard Meade, three-day eventer, 57; Mr W.N. Menzies-Wilson, former chairman, Ocean Transport and Trading, 69; Miss Yvonne Minton, mezzo-soprano, 52; Professor Lord Morris of Castle Morris, 65; Dr A.L. Rowse, historian, 92; Miss Pamela Stephenson, comedienne, 45; the Rev C.J.M. Weir, former Professor of Hebrew and Semitic languages, 98.

RN College Greenwich

The Chapel and Painted Hall of the Royal Naval College will be closed to public view from Saturday, December 23 until Tuesday, January 2, 1996. However, the chapel will be open for public services on December 24, 25 and 31 at 11.00.

Memorial services

Sir Gawain Bell
A memorial service for Sir Gawain Bell, colonial administrator and diplomat, was held on Saturday in Winchester College Chapel. The Rev Robert Ferguson, senior chaplain to the college, officiated. Mrs Amanda Buchan, daughter, and Mr Mark Prebble, son-in-law, read the lessons. Mr Anthony Kirk-Greene gave an address.

Sir Geoffrey Warnock
Lord Jenkins of Hillhead, OM, Chancellor of Oxford University, attended a memorial service for Sir Geoffrey Warnock, a former Principal of Hertford College held on Saturday at the University Church of St Mary the Virgin, Oxford. The Rev Brian Mountfort gave an introduction and welcome and the Rev Michael Chantry, Chaplain of Hertford College, officiated.

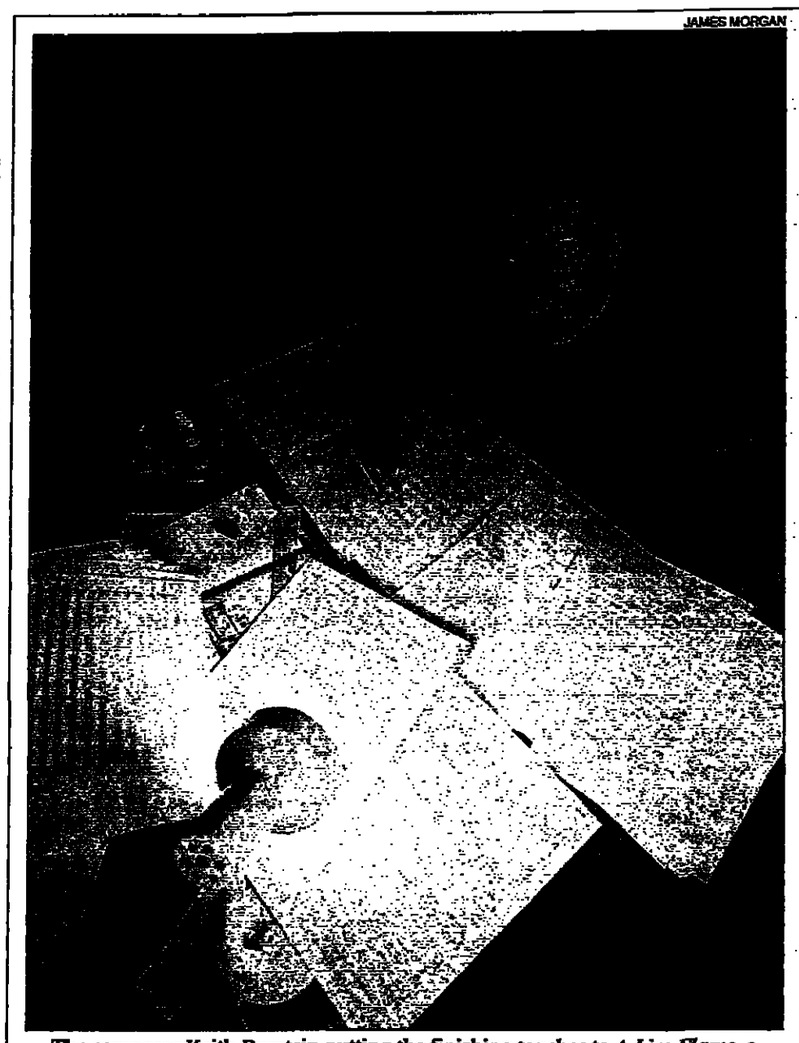
The Hon Mrs Maria Jenkins, daughter, read the lesson and the Hon James Warnock, son, read from John Donne's *Devotions*. Sir Peter Strawson and Mr John Torrance gave addresses.

Members of the Hertford College and New College choirs, accompanied by members of the Warnock family in a double string quartet, sang Purcell's *Rejoice in the Lord Alway*. Among others present were:

Baroness Warnock (widow), the Hon Felix Warnock (son), the Hon Kitty Warnock and the Hon Mrs Stephana Branson (daughters) and other members of the family; Dr Peter North (Vice-Chancellor, Oxford University) with past vice-chancellors, past and present heads of houses, members of the council and general board, fellows and honorary fellows of Hertford College and many other friends.

His Honour Patrick Medd, QC
The Lord Chief Justice was represented by Mr Justice Latham at a memorial service for His Honour Patrick Medd, QC, held on Saturday in Dorchester Abbey, Oxfordshire. Canon John Crowe, rector, officiated, assisted by Father John Osman, Roman Catholic Parish Priest of Dorchester-on-Thames. His Honour Stephen Oliver, QC, and Judge Paul Clark read the lessons. Sir Thomas Bingham, Master of the Rolls, read from John Bunyan's *The Pilgrim's Progress*. Lord Nolan gave an address.

JAMES MORGAN



The composer Keith Burstein putting the finishing touches to *A Live Flame*, a piece written in memory of John Smith, the Labour Party leader, which will be premiered at St John's, Smith Square in London on Wednesday

Times's man in Morocco remembered

FROM MARK HUBAND, NORTH AFRICA CORRESPONDENT, IN TANGIER

AMID the thoroughly English setting of Tangier's St Andrew's Church, admirers of *The Times*'s legendary Morocco correspondent Walter Harris last week witnessed the unveiling of a plaque in his memory.

The event coincided with a service led by the Archdeacon of Gibraltar, the Ven Kenneth Robinson, to mark the church's 101st anniversary. Remaining members of Tangier's dwindling expatriate population heard Harris's biographer James Chandler recount anecdotes from the life of a journalist who knew Morocco so well that he was regularly dispatched by the British Government on semi-diplomatic missions to the then unknown interior of the sultanate.

The lack of reward for these missions, undertaken regularly from his arrival in Morocco in 1887 until after the First World War, left Harris angry at diplomatic meanness.

A brass plaque commissioned by Sir Edward Pickering, executive vice-chairman of Times Newspapers, which describes Harris as "a lover of the Moroccan people", was unveiled in the church by the British Ambassador to Morocco, Sir Allan Ramsay, and *The Times*'s Foreign Editor, Richard Owen.

Referring to Harris's resentment at not being sufficiently rewarded for his diplomatic efforts, Sir Allan told those gathered for last Thursday's ceremony: "I hope that my presence here may lay that ghost to rest, if it's still looming."

Fluent in Arabic and the Berber dialect, Harris would dress in many disguises to facilitate his risky missions to the seats of Morocco's rulers in Marrakesh and Fes. He befriended the ruling sultans, and used his privileged access and talents as a linguist, storyteller and bon vivant, to write hilarious and insightful reports for *The Times*. Several books also emerged from these experiences.

Harris's first story from Morocco appeared in the newspaper in 1887, when he was 21. As the country became the setting for European imperial rivalry and intrigue, his output increased though he was not made a full-time correspondent until 1902.

The obituary which appeared in The Times on April 5, 1933, described how Harris's disguises meant "he was the complete, fanatical-looking type, with shaven-head but for a foot-long lock hanging from the crown, red guncase for turban, short brown *jelab*, bare, reddish tanned neck and legs, carrying a long native musket and glancing furtively as he went, just as such men from home do".

A year after his appointment to the staff of *The Times*, Harris was captured by a famous Moroccan bandit, Mulai Ahmed Ben Mohammed Er-Raisuli. The account of his incarceration firmly established him, in the words of Geoffrey Dawson, then *Times* Editor, as one of the newspaper's "finest pens". Harris died in Malta in 1933 aged 66, after years also spent in Indo-China as a correspondent for the newspaper.

□ St Andrew's Church has launched an appeal to raise funds for its restoration. Contributions should be marked for St Andrew's Church, Tangier and sent care of: the Diocese of Europe, 14 Tufton Street, London, SW1P 3QZ.

Anniversaries today

BIRTHS: John Cotton, Puritan clergyman (the Patriarch of New England), Derby, 1585; Thomas Carlyle, essayist and historian, Ecclefechan, Dumfriesshire, 1795; Samuel Butler, author of *The Way of All Flesh*, Langar Rectory, Nottinghamshire, 1835; Edith Cavell, nurse, Swardeston, Norfolk, 1865; Rainer Maria Rilke, poet, Prague, 1875; Katharine Susannah Prichard, novelist, Levuka, Fiji, 1883; Francisco Franco, dictator of Spain 1939-75, El Ferrol, Galicia, 1892; Sir Herbert Read, poet and critic, Kirbymoorside, Yorkshire, 1893.

DEATHS: Armand Jean, Duc de Richelieu, cardinal and statesman, Paris, 1642; William Drummond of Hawthornden, poet, Hawthornden, Lothian, 1649; Thomas Hobbes, philosopher, Hardwick Hall, Derbyshire, 1679; John Gay, poet, London, 1732; Luigi Galvani, physician and physicist, Bologna, 1798; Robert Banks Jenkinson, 2nd Earl of Liverpool, Prime Minister 1812-27, London, 1828; William Sturgeon, physicist, Prestwick, Lancashire, 1850; John Ayrton Paris, physician, London, 1856; Stefan George, poet, Minusio, Switzerland, 1933; Thomas Morgan, biologist, Nobel laureate 1933, Pasadena, California, 1945; Benjamin Britten, composer, Aldeburgh, 1976.

Nicholas Breakspear became the only English pope, Adrian IV, 1154. William Pitt introduced income tax, 1799.

The Dandy comic was first published by D.C. Thomson, 1937.

Nature notes

SONG-THRUSHES started singing in the treetops everywhere last week. They are already establishing their spring songposts and territories, although they may abandon them if the weather gets severe and food hard to find. Robins and wrens are also singing more vigorously. Many little egrets have crossed the Channel from France. They were rare in England until a few years ago but can now be found, mainly in the West Country, by marsh lakes and estuaries. They are pure white herons, with black legs and bill; in the spring they will grow long wispy plumes on their backs.

Flowers still to be seen are ivy-leaved toadflax, a tiny purple and yellow flower that grows among hanging leaves on damp walls, and bristly ox-tongue, a dandelion-like flower with prickly, warty leaves.



The little egret

The smaller hawkweed ox-tongue is also still in bloom here and there: its flowers are a paler yellow. Under the ash-trees the ground is littered with stalks and leaves that have fallen while they were still green: next year's sooty black buds already stand out on the smooth grey twigs. Snowberry bushes are covered with white berries. This American plant has naturalised itself by streams and ditches. DJM

Marriages

Mr C.R. Holland
and Miss K.A.M. Webb
The marriage took place on Saturday at St Peter's, Martley, Hereford and Worcester, of Mr Christian Holland, son of Mr and Mrs Rodney Holland, of Holland Park, London, to Miss Kate Webb, daughter of Mr and the Hon Mrs Richard Webb, of Martley, Hereford and Worcester. Canon W.N. Richards officiated.

The bride, who was given in marriage by her father, was attended by Laura Webb, Emily Holland, Sophie Gilbert and Alice Holland. Mr Damian Katkhuda was best man.

A reception was held at the home of the bride and the honeymoon will be spent abroad.

Mr G.C. Greig
and Miss K.E. Terry
The marriage took place on Saturday at the Church of St John the Baptist, Kingstone Lisle, Wantage, Oxfordshire, of Mr Geordie Greig, youngest son of Sir Carron and Lady Greig, to Miss Kathryn Terry, only daughter of Mr and Mrs Don Terry, of Texas. The Rev Alan Wadge officiated.

The bride, who was given in marriage by her father, was attended by Leonora Lonsdale, Rosanna Lonsdale, Kitty Rice and Rafe Fletcher. Mr Justin Byam Shaw was best man.

A reception was held at Kingstone Lisle Park and the honeymoon will be spent abroad.

Mr R.W.D. Dane
and Ms V.F. Dineley
The marriage took place on December 1, at Chelsea Register Office, and was followed by a service of blessing at Chelsea Old Church, between Richard William Daniel Dane and Viktoria Franceska Dineley.

Mr E.J. Olympitis
and Miss E.C. Todhunter
The marriage took place on Friday, December 1, 1995, at All Saints, Farnborough, near Wantage, of Manoli, elder son of Mr John Olympitis and the late Mrs Olympitis, to Emily, younger daughter of Mr and Mrs Michael Todhunter.

The reception was held at The Old Rectory, Farnborough.

Mr A.F. Woolgar
and Miss K.A. Haubert
The marriage took place on Saturday, October 28, 1995, at St Mary's Roman Catholic Church, Ridgefield, Connecticut, USA, of Mr Andrew Woolgar, only son of Mr and Mrs Frank Woolgar, of Redbridge, Essex, to Miss Kathleen Haubert, only daughter of Mr and Mrs William Haubert, of Ridgefield, Connecticut. The Rev Father Michael Malone of Salve Regina University, Newport, Rhode Island, officiated.

Forthcoming marriages

Mr K. Fowler
and Miss S. Hargreaves
The engagement is announced between Karl, son of Mr and Mrs Christopher Fowler, of Coventry, and Sophie, daughter of the late Mr Roger Hargreaves and of Mrs Chris Hargreaves, of Blackham, Kent.

Mr H.D.H. Kilpatrick
and Miss E.J. Crotty
The engagement is announced between Hector David Hugh, son of Mr and Mrs David R. Kilpatrick, of Kilninver, by Oban, Argyll, and Elizabeth Jane, daughter of Mr and Mrs John H. Crotty, of Farnham, Surrey.

Mr S.N. O'Sullivan
and Miss M.R. Webb
The engagement is announced between Stephen, eldest son of Mr and Mrs M.C.N. O'Sullivan, of Birch, Essex, and Melody, daughter of Mr and Mrs L. Webb, of Washington, DC, USA.

Appointments in the Forces

Royal Navy & Royal Marines
CAPTAIN: R S Wraith - Drake 5.3.96.
COMMANDER: J Bailey - Seahawk 29.3.96; D M Forbes - Trenchant in Cmd 22.5.96; D R Goodwin - Portsdown 5.3.96; R A Harding - MOD London 3.5.96; P Higgins - Sea Cadet Corps London 4.4.96; W K Howat - HQAF-NORTHWEST 1.3.96; C J Hyldon - Staff of FONA 22.3.96; P S Marley - Excellent 15.3.96; P Matthews - Staff of CINCFLEET 23.2.96; M J Robbins - Greenwich 29.3.96.
MAJOR: S E Shadbolt - PJHQ Northwood 01.04.96.
CHAPLAIN: K C Bromage - Raleigh 12.1.96; I Eglin - Heron 15.12.95; G M Elmore - Fearless 30.1.96; T J Lewis - Staff of FOSF Devonport 15.1.96; A J F Metters - Sultan 12.1.96; R L Pyne - Dryad 23.2.96.
Retirements
COMMODORE: R C Moore - 17.2.96.
PR CHAPLAIN: B F Neill - 19.2.96.
SURGEON COMMANDER: C M James - 24.2.96.

The Army
BRIGADIER: A M D Palmer - To MOD, 4.12.95; D C N Shaw - To be Comd HQ 42(NW) Bde, 8.12.95; J M Shaw - To HQ ARRC, 5.12.95.
COLONEL: T Cross - To MOD, 6.12.95; H M Fletcher - To Staff Coll, 4.12.95; T J Ludlam - To be Comd Engr Resources, 4.12.95; M A D Donnithorne-Tait - To MOD, 4.12.95; C C Wilson - To HQ AF Northwest (BAE), 4.12.95.
LIEUTENANT COLONEL: J R J Baxter RA - To MOD, 4.12.95; S K E Clarke RE - To BMM Kuwait, 6.12.95; G Gillot RLC - To MOD, 4.12.95; R C Lloyd RWF - To MOD, 4.12.95; R C Lloyd-Williams LI - To BDS Washington, 8.12.95; A W B Loudon BW - To be CO 1 BW, 6.12.95; D J McLean R Signals - To R Sch of Sigs, 4.12.95; P B Neale R Signals - To MOD, 4.12.95; P Parfitt R Signals - To MOD, 4.12.95; A H Symmons R Signals - To R Sch of Sigs, 4.12.95; W G Withers RLC - To be CO Cat Gp RLC, 4.12.95.
Retirement
COLONEL: D A Beveridge Late Queen's, 8.12.95.
Royal Air Force
GROUP CAPTAIN: S J Lloyd - MOD, 1.12.95; M C Heath - RAF Benson, 8.12.95; T J Murray - Joint Airmiss Section, 8.12.95; R Brumpton - HQ LC, 8.12.95; D A Hobart - MOD, 8.12.95.
Retirements
AIR COMMODORE: D M Anderson - 1.12.95; J S Jones - 10.12.95.
GROUP CAPTAIN: A Threadgould - 1.12.95; G H Rolfe - 10.12.95.

St Lawrence College

Mr Mark Slater, BA, has been appointed Headmaster to succeed Mr John Binfield, MA, who retires in August 1996 after 34 years at St Lawrence College, Ramsgate. Currently Mr Slater is Housemaster and Head of Spanish at Wellington College. While at St Edmund Hall, Oxford, he played hockey for the University. He is married and has two young daughters.

Legal appointments

Mr Conrad Dehn, QC, has been elected Treasurer of Gray's Inn for 1995 in succession to the Sir Iain Glidewell and Judge Esyr Lewis, QC, has been elected Vice-Treasurer.

Latest wills

Hilda Catherine May Mann, of Leatherhead, Surrey, left estate valued at £1,219,891 net.

She left personal legacies totalling £74,000, £2,000 each to the RNLI and PDSA, and the residue to the Derek Prince Ministries.

BMD'S: 0171 782 7272
PRIVATE: 0171 481 4000

PERSONAL COLUMN

TRADE: 0171 481 1982
FAX: 0171 481 9313

Because you put your faith in God, you are under the protection of his power until the salvation now in readiness is revealed at the end of time. 1 Peter 1 : 5 (REB)

BIRTHS

GORE - On November 30th 1995, to Sarah (née Frizzell) and Simon, a son, Milo Thomas Spencer, a brother for Sam.

ROBERTSON - On October 25th in Sydney, Australia, David Stuart, a son to Stuart and Fiona, a brother for Mairi.

STANLEY - To Ruth and Andrew, a gorgeous son, Robert James born on Saturday 4th November 1995.

DEATHS

CORRIS - Philip Geoffrey (Geoff), Times Crossword Compiler, died November 30th 1995. Cremation at Kingsdown Crematorium, Swindon, Wiltshire, on Friday December 8th at 10am. No flowers please. All donations to the Cardiac Recovery Unit, John Radcliffe Hospital, Headington, Oxford. Enquiries to A.E. Baker & Sons, tel: (01793) 764664.

CUTHBERT - Alan Griffiths, Artist and former Vice-Principal of Wimbledon School of Art, died suddenly in Puylaroque, Tarn et Garonne, France, on Saturday 25th November. Much loved son of Gwendoline, husband of Lisanne and father to Fiona, Sarah, Andrew and Lewis. Donations please to The British Heart Foundation. Memorial Service in London to be arranged.

HODGSON - On November 27th suddenly at home, Monica, widow of Arthur (Hoddy) of Aldeburgh and formerly of Hong Kong. Much loved mother and grandmother. Funeral at Aldeburgh Parish Church 2pm Friday December 8th. Enquiries to Tony Browns Funeral Services, Saxmundham, Suffolk.

DEATHS

HOLDER - Barrie aged 50 years. Beloved husband of Pam, devoted father to David and Paul and dearly loved son of Joan. Suddenly in London on Thursday 30th November 1995. Deputy Chief Executive, General Accident. Funeral on Wednesday 6th December. Service in St John's Episcopal Church, Princess Street, Perth, at 1.30 pm to which all friends and colleagues are respectfully invited. Family flowers only please, but if desired, a retiring collection will be taken for The British Heart Foundation. Private Committal thereafter at Perth Crematorium.

LINDSAY - On November 26th, in Brussels, after a long illness, Thomas Martin Lindsay, younger son of the first Baron Lindsay of Birker.

MALCOLM - David peacefully at home on November 30th 1995, David Peter Michael Malcolm, 11th Baronet of Balbedie. Loved husband, father and grandfather. Funeral Service at St Adrian's Episcopal Church, Gullane, on Thursday December 7th at 11.30 am. All welcome. Family flowers only please. For further enquiries contact G. Wood & Hay F/D. (01620) 823903.

MATHER - on 29 November, peacefully at home, Kathleen Lilian Cobnan Mather, aged 89. Funeral at Breakspear crematorium, Ruislip Middlesex at 12.45 pm on Monday 11 December. Family flowers only, and donations to charity.

PASLEY-TYLER, Henry, CBE., RN., Affectionately known to family and friends alike as "The Commander", suddenly following brief illness on 1st December. Funeral, Thursday 7th December at 12 noon, Ravensthorpe Church.

POTTER - Herbert Harold OBE. Beloved husband, Father and Grandfather, on the 30th November

DEATHS

SCOTT MACKIRDY On Thursday, November 30th, peacefully after a short illness at the Yeatman Hospital, Sherborne, Michael Evelyn Wallace, husband of the late Nancy and father to Christopher and the late Jane. Funeral service 4pm Friday December 8th at St Mary Magdalene, Castleton, Sherborne. Flowers to W S Brister and Son, Sherborne.

THOMLINSON - Lorna, on 1st December after a long illness. Beloved wife of John, mother of Antony and Nicholas and the mother-in-law of Jayne, and grandmother of James and Mark. Funeral Service at All Saints' Church, Fulham (Just North of Putney Bridge) at 11.30am, Thursday 7th December. Family flowers only, but if desired donations to Macmillan Nurses.

WILD - Helen. On 1st December peacefully at Moreton-in-Marsh Hospital. Much loved wife of Peter and mother of Maxwell, Simon and Rosalind. Family Funeral.

GOLDEN ANNIVERSARIES

HEATH:CRITCHETT - On December 4th 1945 at Christ Church, Paddington, Henry to Joan. Now at Seaford, Sussex.

MEMORIAL SERVICES

RONALD ERNEST UTIGER
A MEMORIAL SERVICE
will be held for Ronald Ernest Utiger on Thursday 7th December at 11am in the Crypt Chapel, St Paul's Cathedral to be followed by a reception at Haberdashers Hall, Staining Lane, London EC2

DEATHS

JONES - Noel Andrew Stephen 1940-1995. A Memorial Service will be held on Friday 22nd December at 10.30 am in the Church of The Immaculate Conception, Farm Street, Mayfair, London W1.

SERVICES

PLUMP PARTNERS National Dating Agency. If you are plump or prefer a plump partner ring 01362 716909.

TICKETS FOR SALE

ALL AVAIL. Phantom, Saigon, all theatre, T. Turner, S. Red, all pop, Rugby 0171 480 6183

ACCESS TICKETS All 5 Nations Rugby Available. Specialists in all major sold out events: call us now on 0171 821 6616

TICKETS FOR SALE
When responding to advertisements readers are advised to establish the face value and full details of tickets before entering into any commitment. Most sports tickets are subject to strict re-sale and transfer rules.

ALL TICKETS
England V W. Samoa
5 Nations Rugby
Clapton, R Stewart, S Red, T Turner & all pop shows. Riverdance, Phantom, Sunset, Saigon, Oliver etc. We obtain the unobtainable
0171 403 9555
All CC's, Free Delivery

FRANCE V ENGLAND RUGBY
20 th JANUARY 1996
OFFICIAL HOSPITALITY INCLUDING TICKET
£525 + VAT
Tel 0171 828 2507

TICKETS FOR SALE

ALL TICKETS. Shows, Sports, Concerts. Cheap air fares worldwide. Tel 0171 839 5565

W.R.U. Debenture seats for sale (60 years) Best location Cardiff Arms Park 01446 730730

ALL TICKETS
England V W. Samoa
5 Nations Rugby
Clapton, R Stewart, S Red, T Turner & all pop shows. Riverdance, Phantom, Sunset, Saigon, Oliver etc. We obtain the unobtainable
0171 403 9555
All CC's, Free Delivery

TICKETS
5 NATIONS RUGBY
VARSITY MATCH
ENG V WEST SAMOA
ERIC CLAPTON.
SIMPLY RED.
TINA TURNER. BLUR
RIVERDANCE
MISS SAIGON. PHANTOM.
SUNSET, LES MIS.
ALL POP, THEATRE & SPORTS
TEL: 0171 323 4480
Great Portland Associates

FOR SALE

THE TIMES - 1791-1995 other titles available. Ready for presentation - also "Sundays". Remember When. 0181-688 5823.

MORNING SUITS
DINNER SUITS
EVENING TAIL SUITS
SURPLUS TO HIRE
LEWMAN & SONS
West End Tel 0171 240 2310
22 Charing Cross Rd WC2
City Tel 0171 623 7721
156 Fenchurch St EC3

SPECIALISTS

YOU should write a book. You can't? Then commission one. Hannah Renier 0171 582 4133.

MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS

VISIT US FOR A WARM WELCOME!
It may be cold outside, but in a Markson Piano showroom you're guaranteed a wide range of pianos for sale or hire. Upright, Grand & Digital. Hire a piano from only £20 per month with an option to buy later. Despite the weather, you'll get friendly and professional advice not a frosty reception!
MARKSON PIANOS
Established 1910
0171 935 8682 (NW1)
0181 854 4517 (SE18)

GIFTS

A BIRTHDATE Newspaper. Original. Superbly presented. Freephone 0800 906609

THIS Xmas give an original newspaper dated their actual birthdate. Only £17.95 with folder + 1895 Times! 01492 631 195.

FLATSHARE

FLATMATES London's foremost (Est 1970) Professional flat sharing service. 0171-589 8491

SW6 Elegant unusual large flat near Tube/River. Owner away 7 months a year £125 pw. Tel: 0171 736 9416

SITUATIONS WANTED

EX INF WO 42 seeks interesting/challenging employment, London Home Counties based. Tel : 01895 832698

ANNOUNCEMENTS

BACK ISSUES of Newspapers available. Tel: 0800 906609

GWEN MORRIS - Last known to live in Keston, Middlesex please contact Edwin Leatherbury, 41 Angas Street, Gawler, SA 5118 (Tel No: 804 787 1857).

MR N J LOAKE would like to express his undying love for Ms N J Bennett.

RENTALS

ARE YOU Visiting London? Central Estates have quality flats and houses in Central London for long or short term rentals. 071 224 3773.

BOLTONS S. Ken. Charming studio flat. K&B. £180 pw incl. CH, gas. 0171 373 0763.

CHRISTMAS in Dublin. Exciting New 1st Class 2 bed Apts Sleeps 5). Christ Church Hall. 21-27 Dec. £450 pw & 28-03 Jan £400 pw. 053-1-6768364.

COVENT GDN Immac 1 bed flt fr & equip cbs piazza & tube £288pw 0171 379 4816

LONDON, NW1. New refurb lge 2 bed flt, patio, rec f/f kit. bath, furn/unfurn £250pw neg FW Clapp 0171 243 0964

LONDON, W14. Bright newly dec unfurn 2 bed flt, bath, recep, f/f kit, £210pw neg FW Clapp 0171 243 0964

NOTTING HILL. Lux 2 bed 2 bath flt fr kit porter cbs to tube £390pw Drury 0171 379 4816

PUTNEY Delightful 2 bed f/f flat nr East Putney tube & shops. Fully furn. Long let. £195pw. Cbs c/h. 0181 870 1826.

WC2 Lux 1 bed flt 2 mins Covent Gdn very well dec & furn cbs to tube £255pw 0171 379 4816

WANTED

MINK COATS, fox coats purchased. Best price paid. All inquires/details to Box No 2150

OVERSEAS TRAVEL

PORTUGAL. All areas. Villas/apts., hotels, pousadas, golf hols., flights. Longmere Int'l. 081 668 2112. Retail agents. ABTA V6097

UK HOLIDAYS

CENTRAL London. Superior serviced apartments. Tel:0181 451 3094 / Fax 0181 459 4422

FLIGHTS DIRECTORY

GERMANY Daily low cost flights. 0181 429 2900. Visa/Access. ABTA 90585. ATOL

★★★★★★★★
CAPITAL FLIGHTS
★★★★★★★★
PRICES FROM

USA	£199	S.AFRICA	£236
CANADA	£179	AUSTRALIA	£405
BANGKOK	£260	CARIBBEAN	£229
SINGAPORE	£265	S.AMERICA	£340
DELHI	£270	JAPAN	£449
HONG KONG	£260	CUBA	£249

ALL EUROPEAN & W/W FLIGHTS AVAILABLE
★★★★★★★★
0171 209 4000
★★★ ABTA 65590 ★★★

UP TO 60% DISCOUNT ON SCHEDULED FLIGHTS WORLDWIDE
WORLD LINK
Agents for ATOL consolidators
TEL: 0171 538 8273

EMBASSY FLIGHT CENTRE
Hove Agency

AUSTRALIA	399	INDIA	289
N.ZEALAND	429	FAR EAST	310
CANADA	179	MIDLEAST	199
U.S.A.	149	SCANDINAVIA	179
S.AMERICA	349	AFRICA	299
CARIBBEAN	229	EURO CITIES	89

ALL WORLDWIDE & EUROPEAN DEST AVAILABLE AT DISCOUNT RATE
Tel: 01273 700737

FLIGHTS DIRECTORY

DOSTCUTTERS on flights & bets to Europe, USA & most destinations. Diplomat Travel Services Ltd: 0171-730 2201. ABTA 25703 IATA/ATOL 1388.

VACATION TRAVEL
PRICES FR.

FARO	59	PALMA	59
MALAGA	69	GREECE	89
ALICANTE	59	MALTA	89
TENERIFE	79	TURKEY	119
LAS PALMAS	79	ISRAEL	129
LANZAROTE	79	CYPRUS	119

All Weekends destinations avail. Winter/Summer. Also car hire & luxury accom.
0990 371855

ALICANTE	fr. £59	FARO	fr. £59
PALMA	£59	CYPRUS	£99
CANARIES	£99	MALTA	£89
GREECE	£89	MOROCCO	£99
MAINLAND	£69	SOUTHERN	£299
ISRAEL	£125	ORLANDO	£199

All European & Worldwide Dest Available Winter 95/96 & Summer 96 Starting Now
VICEROY AIR INTERNATIONAL
01476 74111
ABTA 88761

TRAILFINDERS
Low cost flights worldwide
AND UP TO 65% DISCOUNT ON HOTELS & CAR RENTAL
Call Trailfinders for the complete tailor-made travel service.
LONDON Longhaul: 0171-938 3366
Transatlantic & European: 0171-937 5400
First & Business Class: 0171-938 3444
BIRMINGHAM Worldwide: 0121-236 1234
BRISTOL Worldwide: 0117-929 9000
GLASGOW Worldwide: 0141-353 2224
MANCHESTER Worldwide: 0161-839 6969
First & Business Class: 0161-839 3434



هكذا من الأصل

OBITUARIES

PROFESSOR A. D. TRENDALL

Professor A. D. Trendall, classical art historian, died in Melbourne on November 13 aged 86. He was born in Auckland on March 28, 1909.



A MASTERLY historian of classical art, A. D. Trendall dedicated his life to the analysis and classification of figure-decorated south Italian pottery from the 5th to the 4th centuries BC. He became a world authority on the subject, and his name will always be associated with it, in much the same way as the study of Attic vases of the 6th to the 4th centuries BC will always be associated with Sir John Beazley. "I have 20,000 loves", Trendall once remarked, "all of them are vases."

When Trendall began his work, scholarly study of pottery of the 5th and 4th century had scarcely begun. The task ahead of him was daunting. Vases were scattered throughout the world, in public museums and private collections. New ones were being discovered all the time. All had to be carefully examined, their date and place of manufacture determined, their painters identified and their iconography interpreted.

It is very rare that the provenance of an ancient classical vase is recorded, but Trendall, through rigorous stylistic analysis, painstakingly established complex artistic genealogies. He worked out cross influences between successions of workshops and a variety of master-pupil relationships, demonstrating how such material can be made to yield the history of its era.

There are at least 20,300 vases extant from the period he studied. Their decoration ranges from the exquisitely complex to an almost clumsy triteness. Trendall used the information gleaned from these vases to plot a historical map. His findings formed part of the evidence of the tensions and interplay between the Greeks and the natives of southern Italy during the 5th and 4th centuries BC.

His studies were also to inform other fields of scholarship. Many of the vases, Trendall postulated, gave a visual impression of the dramatic performances of the ancient world. Some of the evidence which could be deduced from this was fairly straightforward — the late appearance of the buskin on the Greek stage, for example. Other evidence gave more subtle indications from which such things as contemporary theatrical taste could be surmised. Trendall conjectured that Euripedes, though not particularly celebrated in his lifetime, later outstripped both Sophocles and Aeschylus, while Aristophanes who was so satrically cruel about Euripides, soon lost his own small artistic following to Menander.

Trendall's lifetime of devoted scholarship is recorded in a series of monumental publications, all exhaustively detailed and extensively illustrated. Trendall constantly kept these updated, producing a series of supplements as fresh material from new excavations emerged. Among the most important of his works are the two volume *The Red-Figured Vases of Lucania, Campania and Sicily* (1968), *Illustrations of Greek Drama* (1972) (which he co-wrote with T. B. L. Webster), *The Red-Figured Vases of Paestum* (1987) and his most recent *Greek Red-figured Fish-plates* (1987).

Arthur Dale Trendall, called Dale by his friends, was born in Auckland, New Zealand. His father taught woodwork and technical drawing and, though his practical artistic ability was not passed on to his son, perhaps it was from him that Trendall inherited the extraordinary visual memory and perceptiveness which was later to serve him so well.

He was educated at King's College, Auckland. When severe peritonitis confined him to a sick bed for a year he read widely and established what was to be a lifetime's passion for literature. At the age of 17 he enrolled at the University of Otago (then part of the University of New Zealand) to read mathematics, but falling under the spell of one of his teachers T. D. Adams, he switched to read Classics.

In 1931 he was awarded a postgraduate scholarship to Trinity College, Cambridge, and he became a Fellow of Trinity from 1936 to 1940. During his long vacations he travelled extensively in Italy, and there first explored the ancient Greek colonial sites. It was his fascination for these sites, combined with the influence of Beazley, which led to his decision to study the red figure pottery produced by the Greeks in southern Italy in the 5th and 4th centuries BC. The interest was to become a passion.

On graduating from Cambridge, Trendall had been awarded a Rome scholarship and went to work as the librarian at the British School in Rome for two years. The work he did there on Italiote vases was to be the foundation for all his later study.

In 1939, Trendall was invited to accept the Chair of Greek at the University of Sydney, Australia, a position which he was to hold until 1954. From 1948 he also held the newly instituted Chair of Archaeology. However, his academic studies were interrupted during the war when he was seconded to Signals Intelligence. He proved to be an excellent cryptographer, working on Japanese diplomatic messages and codes.

In 1954 Trendall moved to Canberra as the first Master of University House. He was also involved in the creation of the Australian Humanities Research Council. His students remembered him as a deeply cultured man but one whose impish humour and lively wit could bring a seemingly dry and academic subject to vibrant life.

After his retirement in 1969 Trendall became a resident Fellow of La Trobe University. He continued to write and publish prolifically.

Dale Trendall was unmarried.

ANNA WAGERSTROM-TARU

Anna Wagerstrom-Taru, Estonian diplomatic representative, died on November 21 aged 79. She was born on April 3, 1916.



ANNA WAGERSTROM-TARU was the last of the diplomatic representatives to keep the Estonian flag flying at the Estonian Legation and Consulate General in South Kensington during the long years of Soviet occupation of her country.

After the death of the final surviving diplomat from the prewar period — those who had been serving when Estonia lost her independence continued to have "certain courtesies" extended to them "personally" by the British Government — the future of the independent legation appeared bleak. But, just as the Foreign Office was able to acknowledge free Latvian and Lithuanian representation, so Taru suddenly found herself administrator of the legation and able to carry on the work of her deceased colleagues.

It was a position she had neither wanted nor expected and it was to cost her much anguish as her own health deteriorated and the Soviet Government, in the person of the then Ambassador Monsieur Zamyatin, demanded to take control of the sizeable legation building in the mid-1980s. Her thwarting of this Soviet effort bore testimony to a proud spirit of Estonian independence.

Born in Tallinn, Taru was one of three daughters of a naval captain of Swedish descent. She studied domestic science and, graduating in 1936, came to London to learn English. She felt it important that she should learn to speak more languages, she would later recall, since as a student applying for a holiday job in Tallinn she has been turned down on the basis that she spoke only four languages. "All our employees speak at least eight," she had been told.

With the outbreak of war in 1939 and the Soviet occupation of Estonia in 1940 under the terms of the Nazi-Soviet pact, Taru, classified as a "friendly alien", sought a job which would allow her to stay in London. She joined the Estonian Legation in 1942 as a secretary and was to stay there for the next 47 years.

In 1940 the Soviet Ambassador had requested that the Foreign Office hand over to his control all three Baltic missions in London. This request was denied. The Estonian Legation in Queen's Gate remained inviolate. Under the spirited leadership of the Minister August Schmidt-Torma, a veteran of the 1918-19 Estonian War of Independence, it carried on its diplomatic mission to represent Estonian interests abroad. The Estonian Legation was kept going, and with it the fine arts and crafts building in which it was housed. But with dwindling Estonian funds, Taru was to recall, this 40-roomed mansion, built in 1889 by Mervyn MacCartney for a retired sugar baron, grew colder and colder in the winter.

In the mid-1960s the Wilson Government succumbed to Soviet demands and handed over some of the Baltic gold which had been entrusted to the safe keeping of the Bank of England before war. Part of this was given as compensation to British citizens who had lost assets in the Baltic states but a direct legal consequence of the action was the *de facto* recognition by the United Kingdom of Soviet occupation of all three Baltic republics. The American Administration continued to refuse either *de facto* or *de jure* recognition of the occupation and furthermore gave full diplomatic status to prewar accredited diplomats as well as to successors they chose to appoint.

With the death of Minister Torma in 1970, closely followed by that of his successors Sarepera and Bergman, it was left to Anna Taru to continue, which she did from 1975 onwards. Although failing health forced her to restrict her life mainly to the confines of the legation, she maintained a stalwart resistance. This was never more evident than when she firmly repulsed the final Soviet bid to take over the legation during the reign of Gorbachev. In her resistance she was supported and advised by many who admired her, not least among them the Estonian Consul General in New York.

However, as Taru's health deteriorated, and financial pressures mounted, it became clear that the end had to come for the Estonian Legation in London. After protracted legal proceedings had exhausted every possible alternative, the building was finally sold in 1989, shortly before *glasnost* brought new freedom to Estonia.

Anna Taru's husband died in 1993. She had no children.

LESLIE WILSON



Leslie James Wilson, OBE, managing director of Bristol's Lulsgate Airport, was killed in a car accident on November 27 aged 62. He was born on January 19, 1933.

WHEN Leslie Wilson became managing director of Bristol's Lulsgate airport in 1980, he took over responsibility for a near-bankrupt enterprise — which, serving fewer than 200,000 passengers annually and running at regular losses of more than £130,000, seemed to be in terminal decline. It was left to Wilson to nurse it, not so much patiently as energetically, back to health.

In the current year an estimated 1½ million passengers will pass through the airport gates, availing themselves of both the scheduled and charter flights which Wilson worked so tirelessly to organise. A thriving enterprise, the business now turns over more than £20 million a year.

Leslie James Wilson attended his local grammar school in Berwick-upon-Tweed. He left at the age of 16 with no qualifications but intent on becoming a professional footballer.

With that end in view, he joined the Berwick Rangers as a part-time player. But much of his time was spent cleaning boots, painting buildings and assisting the groundsmen. National Service with the RAF and a twice-broken leg soon curtailed his footballing career and, having turned down the opportunity of being trained as a pilot, he was left a somewhat directionless young man, uncertain what to do next.

An indication of things to follow had come, however, during his service days. Stationed near Baghdad he had organised coach tours for RAF personnel travelling to Babylon. These had proved extremely popular.

Back in Britain Wilson used his RAF experience as a radio operator to enter the aviation industry, working in 1953 at Newcastle airport. But in 1956 he moved to Sywell aerodrome in Northampton to become, at the unusually youthful age of 23, an air traffic controller. He later moved to Lympne airport in Kent.

Wilson regretted not having obtained any qualifications at school and set about redressing the matter through using his evenings to study by correspondence course. He married a nurse, who had looked after him when his leg was broken, and in 1962 they moved together to East Africa, where he worked as an air traffic controller first at Nairobi and then at Lusaka airport. During this time he learnt Swahili and also continued studying for additional qualifications with the Institute of Transport and the Institute of Marketing.

In 1972 Wilson's wife died, and he and his children moved back to England where he remarried. He worked for a short while at Luton airport before moving to Bristol.

In his first six years in charge at Bristol, Les Wilson turned an annual loss of £130,000 into a profit of £1.3 million and saw passenger traffic increase by 90 per cent. In 1987 the airport became a private company, with Wilson as managing director. From then on he never stopped. He was often referred to as "Mr Bristol Airport" as he endlessly sought new ways to promote the terminal. He cajoled airlines into bringing both charter and scheduled services to Bristol. In 1994 he was appointed OBE.

Wilson was an ebulliently energetic man who never missed a publicity stunt. A raconteur, he would regale after-dinner audiences with countless airport stories. He made a point of knowing many of the West Country travel agents personally and, whenever he was advised of a special group coming through the airport, would arrange for them to be met — often seeing them personally.

Once, when an Iberia flight was diverted to Bristol from Heathrow, Wilson checked the passenger list and found that King Juan Carlos of Spain and the footballer Kevin Keegan were both on board. Having maintained an avid interest in football since his youth, he was torn as to which of them should have the airport's single VIP lounge. In the end royalty won but he admitted it was a close-run decision.

When he was not too busy at some promotional function, Wilson would be found following his wife to equestrian events and mucking out stables on their farm at Somerton where they lived.

He is survived by his wife Pat, and by three children from his first marriage and one from his second.

JUNIOR WALKER

Junior Walker, musician, died of cancer on November 23 aged 64. He was born in 1931.



IT IS more than two decades since Junior Walker's name was regularly in the charts but the tenor saxophone he wielded on many classic 45s still resonates. He had a devotion to this instrument which won him a distinctive place in the history of soul music.

Junior Walker was born in Blythesville, Arkansas. He was baptised Autry DeWalt II, but his stepfather renamed him at an early age. Walker was barely a teenager when, galvanised by the jump blues and R&B saxophone of such luminaries as Illinois Jacquet and Arnett Cobb, he formed his own local group called the Jumping Jacks.

In 1961 his dexterity with the horn won him a recommendation from Johnny Bristol, himself an emergent soul producer and writer, to Bristol's partner Harvey Fuqua. Walker cut three singles for the Harvey label with his flamboyantly named band the All-Stars, featuring guitarist Willie Woods, organist Vic Thomas and James Graves on drums. In 1964, Fuqua and his roster jumped to a much bigger ship, switching to the label with which Walker would make an enduring reputation, Motown.

Walker later observed that, although Motown Records helped him "gold-plate" his horn, he already knew how to blow it. But it was via Berry Gordy's powerful empire that the saxman became a star.

In 1965 he was inspired by a dance step to write and record *Shotgun*, which raced to the top of the American R&B charts and wasted little time crossing over to the pop bestsellers, selling a million copies. Produced by Gordy and Lawrence Horn, the track demanded the listener's attention from the very first second with a crack of gunfire. It set the pattern for the All-Stars's signature sound: an exciting, spontaneous party groove with Thomas's organ and Woods's guitar nimbly supporting the bandleader's acrobatic Selmer Mark 6 sax lines and gritty vocals to a tight backbeat from Graves.

The recipe was successfully repeated for several years, as the group punctuated its almost constant road work by cutting such timeless singles as *Shake And Fingerpop*, *Pucker Up Buttercup* and *Road Runner*. Working with producers such as Bristol, Fuqua, and the Holland-Dozier-Holland team, Walker and the All-Stars also had success with several remakes of Motown hits from earlier in the decade, notably with Marvin Gaye's *How Sweet It is (To Be Loved By You)*, which brought the first of too few British chart appearances. They produced another US million-seller with the more measured *What Does It Take (To Win Your Love)*.

Walker found more difficulty in reaching an American pop audience from this point on; ironically, he made a stronger connection with British fans at the late date of 1972, as Walker blew perhaps his most lyrical solo ever on *Walk In the Night*, which was followed into the top 20 here by a reissue of *Take Me Girl I'm Ready*.

As the popularity of his records declined, Walker left Motown for the label of his former producer, Norman Whitfield. His *Back Street Boogie* album of 1979 was followed by a new role for Walker as a front-of-stage session man in 1981, when his saxophone illuminated *Urgent*, a major American hit for Foreigner.

Such a lift to his profile brought about a reunion with Motown, for whom he recorded his last prominent record, *Blow The House Down* was released in 1983, and was made with a group now featuring his son, Autry DeWalt III, on drums. This only further enhanced Walker's reputation.

Junior Walker was married with 11 children.

GENERAL MAXWELL THURMAN

Maxwell Thurman, US Army general, died of leukaemia in Washington on December 1 aged 64. He was born in High Point, North Carolina, on February 18, 1931.

PEOPLE called him "Mad Max", and even "Maxatollah", because Maxwell Thurman's style of command could be aggressive in the extreme. It was he who, while in charge of the United States Southern Command in Panama, was widely credited with having persuaded President George Bush to use military force against the government of General Manuel Noriega in 1989.

Thurman had been due for retirement, but at the request of the Bush Administration he stayed on to command that invasion, which resulted in the eventual capture of Noriega and his forced extradition to the United States to face drug charges. It also resulted in the deaths of hundreds (some said thousands) of Panamanians, though US casualties were light.

His reputation as a tough, take-charge commander, was forged during the Vietnam War where, after a spell as a corps intelligence adviser, he was given command of the Second Battalion, 35th Field Artillery, during the Tet offensive of 1968. Although that series of battles was a public relations disaster for the United States, it was claimed as a tactical victory for the American Forces in the field.

Thurman later became commanding general of the US Army Training and Doctrine Command and also of the Recruiting Command, in which role he became the principal architect of the all-volunteer Army. He was credited with vastly improving the standard of the average American soldier during the 1980s.

He was regarded, however, as a difficult man to work for, renowned for "driving his staff crazy," according to one officer, "because he was a bachelor and the guy never went home".

In 1990, shortly after the Panama invasion, Thurman was diagnosed as having leukaemia. He retired in 1991 after a military career lasting 37 years.

Maxwell Thurman leaves no survivors.

Church appointments

The Rev Nigel Abbott, Team Rector, Hemel Hempstead: to be Rector, Much Hadham (St Albans).

The Rev Anthony Atkins, Assistant Chaplain of Hope Hospital, Manchester (Manchester): to be full-time Hospital Chaplain of Rotherham District General Hospital and Badsley Moor Lane and Doncaster Gate Hospitals, Rotherham (Sheffield).

The Rev Gary Birchall, Priest-in-charge, St James, Burnopfield: to be the incumbent of that benefice (Durham).

The Rev Alison Bowman, Curate, Peacehaven: to be Team Vicar, Rye (Chichester).

The Right Rev John Brown, former Bishop of Cyprus and the Gulf: to be an Honorary Assistant Bishop of Lincoln (Lincoln).

The Rev Michael Burson-Thomas, Vicar, united benefice of Lockerley w East Dean and East Tytherley and West Tytherley (Winchester): to be Priest-in-charge, united parish of Fotherby and Assistant Local Ministry Officer for the archdeaconry of Lindsey (Lincoln).

The Rev Dr Perry Butler, Vicar, St Michael, Bedford Park: to be Priest-in-charge, St George, Bloomsbury (London).

The Rev Robert Clifton, Priest-in-charge designate, Orford w Sudbourne, Chillesford, Butley and Iken: as from Easter 1996 to be *also* Rural Dean of Woodbridge (St Edmundsbury and Ipswich)

The Rev Dr Simon Coupland, Curate, Bath St Luke (Bath and Wells): to be Team Vicar, Broadwater (Chichester).

The Rev Richard Crossland, Assistant Curate (NSM), in the diocese of Southwark: now Assistant Curate (NSM), Lincoln Cathedral (Lincoln).

The Rev Simon Evans, Vicar, St Alban the Martyr (Portsmouth): to be Vicar, St Martin, Ruislip (London).

The Rev Edward Furness, Minister, The Mayflower Family Centre, Canning Town (Chelmsford): to be Priest-in-charge, St James, Aston (Birmingham).

The Rev Christopher Huitson, Vicar, Leavesden: to be Vicar, Totteridge (St Albans).

The Rev Tom Jamieson, Priest-in-charge, united benefice of Ryton w Hedgefield: to be the incumbent of that benefice (Durham).

The Rev Christopher Lilley, Assistant Curate, Great Limber: to be Priest-in-charge, Middle Rasen Drax, West Rasen, Toft next Newton w Newton by Toft (Lincoln).

The Rev Ian McGrath, Assistant Curate, Spilsby group of parishes: now Priest-in-charge, Asterby group of parishes (Lincoln).

The Rev John Marshall, Honorary Curate, St Saviour, Brixton Hill: to be Honorary Curate, St James Clapham (Southwark).

The Rev Susan Marshall, Curate (NSM), Lewes St John the Baptist, Southover: now Curate, Iford w Kingston and Rodmell (Chichester).

The Rev Barry Middleton, Rector, Badingham w Bruisyard, Cransford and Dennington (St Edmundsbury and Ipswich): to be Vicar, St John the Evangelist, Sidcup (Rochester).

FEEDING THE TROOPS.

No army was ever fed with more punctuality, and no army, I believe, was ever so well fed under such very exceptional circumstances as those in which we are placed. We are fed by Balaklava alone: thence comes our daily bread. It has to be carried out day by day, and yet no man in this army has ever been without his pound of good biscuit, his pound and a-half or pound of good beef or mutton, his quota of coffee, tea, rice, and sugar, or his gill of excellent rum, for any one day, except it has been through his own neglect. Nevertheless, large as are our advantages in the excellence and regularity of the supply of food, the officers and men have had to undergo great privations. They landed, as most of us remember, without anything but what they could carry, and the officers marched beside their men, slept by them, fought by them, and died by them, undistinguished from them in any respect, except by the deadly epaulette and swordbelt, which have cost so many lives to the country. Many delicately nurtured youths have never changed shirt or shoes for weeks together, and they are deprived of the use of water for ablution, except to a very limited extent. The officers are in rags. Guardsmen who were "the best style of men" in the Parks now turn out in coats and trousers and boots all seams and patches, torn in all directions, and mended with more vigour than neatness, and our smartest cavalry and line men are models of ingenious sewing and stitching. We have out here "soldiering with the gilding off," and many a young gentleman would be for ever cured of his love of arms if he could but see one day's fighting. As to young ladies suffering from "scarlet fever", who are for ever thinking of heroes and warriors, if they could but for one instant have stood beside me and gazed into one of the pits where some 30 "clods of the valley," all covered with scarlet and blue cloth, with lace, and broidery, and blood, were lying side by side, and staring up at heaven with their sightless orbs as they were about to be consigned to the worm, they would feel the horrors of their hero worship, and would join in prayer for the advent of that day — if come it ever may — when war shall be no more.

Before launching into another criticism of the Crimean War, our correspondent, Howard Russell, gave credit to Mr Commissary-General Filder for continuing to feed the troops.

ON THIS DAY

December 4, 1861

NEWS

Opposition to Princess as envoy

■ Ministers and Buckingham Palace officials are seeking to limit any formal ambassadorial role for the Princess of Wales amid fears that she could find herself embroiled in political controversy overseas.

John Major and the Queen are expected to discuss the Princess's future at the Prime Minister's weekly audience tomorrow. This follows her visit to the Palace last week when she is reported to have outlined the job she wishes..... **Page 1**

Clarke resists move to Right

■ A fierce internal battle over the Conservative election manifesto was signalled amid indications that Kenneth Clarke will spearhead a campaign to prevent further moves to the Right over Europe and the welfare state. Senior ministers mounted a campaign in defence of Mr Clarke..... **Page 1**

France on strike

The most disruptive French strike for a decade will get worse as telephone, electricity, education and health workers join public transport employees to protest against M Juppe's overhaul of the welfare system ..... **Pages 1, 12**

Bosnia peace force

President Clinton, shrugging off tough talk by the Bosnian Serb military leader, announced that had cleared the dispatch of 700 US troops as part of the advance Nato force ..... **Pages 1, 12**

Tornado crisis

The RAF's frontline "dogfight" aircraft, the Tornado F3, can be out-performed by more than 50 airforces..... **Page 2**

Europe dispute

Britain will tomorrow again find itself at odds with its Brussels partners when the Government discloses its outright opposition to any further extension of majority voting..... **Page 2**

Anti-hunting row

The League Against Cruel Sports was heading for self-destruction after failing to resolve feuding over the future of its head official, who has angered activists with his views on fox-hunting ..**Page 5**

Leeson gamble

Nick Leeson's lawyers are debating whether to take the gamble of appealing against the length of his jail sentence ..... **Page 6**

Unwanted tip

A campaign against service charges and hidden extras on restaurant bills will be boosted this week by a survey showing that a substantial majority of customers want them ended..... **Page 8**

Fighting talk

The Plain Language Commission will announce its awards for 1995 today, much to the annoyance of the Plain English Campaign, an organisation with almost identical objectives..... **Page 9**

Drink driving call

The British Medical Association want permitted alcohol levels for drivers almost halved, from 80 milligrams to 50, to reduce the number of road deaths and accidents linked to drink..... **Page 10**

Rabin guard accused

The self-confessed killer of Yitzhak Rabin's suggested that one of the Prime Minister's bodyguards might have been part of the plot..... **Page 11**

Ex-president arrested

Chun Doo Hwan, the former South Korean President, was arrested for his role in a 1979 coup that was followed by the most violent crackdown in the country's history..... **Page 11**

US-Europe pact

The United States and the European Union signed a pact to guide their relationship into the next century..... **Page 13**

Battle to save Britain's crowns

■ Heritage groups are trying to block the export to America of two magnificent crowns worn by six British monarchs at coronations and state openings of Parliament. They have been given until January 24 to raise almost £1 million to buy them and return them to the Tower of London, where they were held from 1715 until 1838..... **Pages 1, 3**

TONY WHITE



Bill Gates, founder of Microsoft, operates an early computer at the Science Museum. The Babbage machine was designed in 1847

BUSINESS

Bid battle: The struggle for control of the Forte hotels group hots up when Sir Rocco Forte, its chairman and chief executive, comes out with his defence package..... **Page 44**

Festive cheer: Christine Buckley looks at the way marketing of whisky is increasingly being directed towards younger and more fashionable drinker ..... **Pages 42, 44**

Train clash: Government departments are at loggerheads over the bidders to build the Channel Tunnel rail link amid fears that one of the country's biggest projects could be facing further delays ... **Page 44**

Shopping around: Two British retail groups have put together a break-up package for Littlewoods whose future is being decided by its family shareholders..... **Page 44**

ARTS

Hidden treasure: Three years ago Michael Heseltine announced that he was seeking new uses for London's finest Georgian public building. Yet today the glories of Somerset House remain off-limits to the public ..... **Page 14**

Moving up: Ben Walden, the actor son of Brian Walden, is becoming a star. Now he is heading for the West End in *The Glass Menagerie*..... **Page 14**

Smelling sweet: The return of the Stone Roses: the country's most elusive pop band opens a rare British tour in Cambridge..... **Page 15**

Keyboard wizard: Alfred Brendel seems to have acquired hero status with the Manchester audience at last. A full house came to hear him play with the Hallé..... **Page 15**

FEATURES

Daddy's girls: They are wealthy, sophisticated — and desperate for the limelight ..... **Page 17**

Her indoors: Whatever the real reason why a woman quits a top job, she will be condemned by men as a failure ..... **Page 17**

MIND AND MATTER

Penny bright: A chance discovery is helping to teach children the power of magnetism..... **Page 16**

Small matter: Are scientists looking for the tiniest building blocks of matter wasting their time?. **Page 16**

FOCUS

Charter Mark Awards: As they celebrate their fourth year, a report on winners and losers ..... **Pages 36-38**

SPORT

Cricket: Set to score 479 for victory England had slumped to 167 for four by the close on the fourth day of the second Test match against South Africa..... **Page 25**

Football: Les Ferdinand scored twice as Newcastle United drew 3-3 with Wimbledon to open up a five-point lead at the top of the FA Premiership table..... **Page 27**

Tennis: United States won the Davis Cup when Pete Sampras gave them an unbeatable 3-1 lead over Russia in the final in Moscow when he won the first reverse singles..... **Page 24**

Athletics: Led by Andrew Pearson, a team of eager young British fusiliers picked up the team bronze medal in the European cross country championships at Alnwick ..... **Page 33**

Boxing: Naseem Hamed has been offered £1 million to meet Wayne McCullough after the Irishman retained his world bantamweight title in the King's Hall, Belfast..... **Page 33**

Racing: Edward O'Grady, the Irish trainer, praised the skills of Richard Dunwoody, the champion jockey, who rode four winners at Sandown ..... **Page 30**

Angling: Male anglers skate on thin ice as women pose the trickiest of questions about relative ability..... **Page 33**

LOTTERY NUMBERS

15 16 19 26 35 46. Bonus: 7

TODAY'S PAPERS

Preview: It takes two to tango and one is an overweight Aussie. *Clive James in Buenos Aires* (ITV, 9pm) **Review:** Lynne Truss finds *Casualty* in need of treatment .....**Page 43**

French with tears

Just as 1979 marked the end of the failed post-War consensus politics in Britain and ushered in the Thatcher revolution, could these strikes deliver a final blow to the consensus which is now failing France? .....**Page 19**

Bosnian business

The practical value of this week's rhetoric now has to be proved in the cold valleys of the Posavina corridor .....**Page 19**

Dinner service

It is time for diners to grow up and assert their rights; not for the State to take charge of this essentially private transaction.....**Page 19**

OBITUARIES

WILLIAM REES-MOGG

France is a sort of Vesuvius for Europe. When the lava has to find a way out, Paris is the natural volcano .....**Page 18**

PETER RIDDELL

The public will not pay for partial private provision in preference to state services which they regard as free and which they have paid for in taxes .....**Page 18**

OTHERWISE

Professor A.D. Trendall, art historian; **Anna Wagerstrom-Taru,** Estonian diplomat; **Junior Walker,** musician; **Leslie Wilson,** Bristol Airport managing director. **Page 21**

LETTERS

Budget and Whitehall, marriage; overseas aid; arts; EU and Central Europe; flying bishops .....**Page 19**

ONE PAPERS

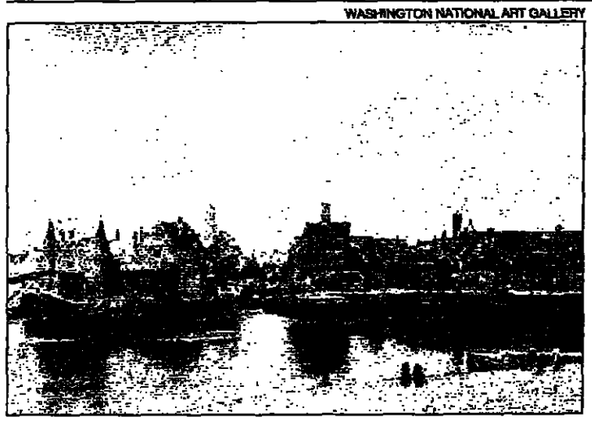
Ministers are happy to spout about the dangers of drinking and smoking. They should be equally honest about beef. That would end the suspicion that they are protecting the interests of the livestock trade

— Sunday Mirror

Anyone contemplating dying between now and the start of the next financial year should consider that the cost will be an extra £18,400 in tax. Next of kin will doubtless ensure that granny is well wrapped up

— The Sunday Telegraph

WASHINGTON NATIONAL ART GALLERY



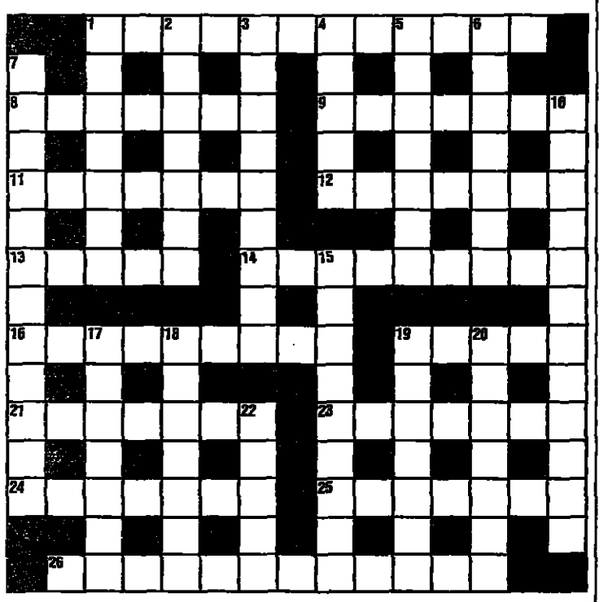
TOMORROW

IN THE TIMES

■ **FINE SHOW**
Washington scores an art world triumph with a rare exhibition of Vermeer's paintings

■ **NEW FOR OLD**
Why the fashion for ageism in the workplace is looking long in the tooth

THE CROSSWORD NO 20,029



ACROSS

1 Sportsman's ring found beside gate (6-6).
8 Woman at university hired out small band (7).
9 Snubs concerning the old East Kent Regiment (7).
11 Eye it with a new driver going round town (7).
12 Managed to get into new gear and adapt (7).
13 Fine performance on course worth ten dollars once (5).
14 My claim to be testing and making better (9).
16 Late working time for small man on board (9).
19 Old PM in Japan or Thailand (5).
21 Began again, producing problem in plant (7).
23 Best opening for traders in drug many injected (7).
24 Apparent location of bishop possessing great skill (7).
25 Welcome British in eastern club (7).
26 Glowing example of Peruvian attack (12).

DOWN

1 Reel — catch the source of bagpiper's air? (7).
2 French novelist allowed inside shelter (7).
3 Applauding former partner practising campanology (9).
4 Parrot circling soldiers in the old country (5).
5 Half of them depart, accepting court ban (7).
6 Find fee is adjusted for a well-respected Arab (7).
7 Retract article written in college on oriental weapons (3,4,5).
10 Tool used by impostor to secure shelf (12).
15 Customer stops near new layout (9).
17 Sort of sea bird in the Orient (7).
18 African territory's main assembly overcoming endless prejudice (7).
19 Eminent baron, say, keeping army (7).
20 Defence for man briefly supporting racket (7).
22 Note seized by father — an object of fear (5).

KNOCKANDO

The solution of Saturday's Prize Puzzle No 20,028 will appear next Saturday. The five winners will receive a bottle of Knockando, a superb Speyside Single Malt Scotch whisky and a fine leather credit card wallet.

Times Two Crossword, page 44

TIMES WEATHERCALL

For the latest region by region forecast, 24 hours a day, dial 0891 500 followed by the appropriate code:

Greater London	701
Kent,Surrey,Sussex	702
Dorset,Hants & IOW	703
Devon & Cornwall	704
Wilts,Glouc's,Avon,Somrs	705
Berks,Bucks,Oxon	706
Beds,Herts & Essex	707
Norfolk,Suffolk,Cambs	708
West Mid & Stn Glam & Gwent	709
Shrops,Heralds & Worcs	710
Central Midlands	711
East Midlands	712
Lincs & Humberside	713
Dyfed & Powys	714
Gwynedd & Clwyd	715
N W England	716
W & S Yorks & Dales	717
N E England	718
Cumbria & Lake District	719
S W Scotland	720
W Central Scotland	721
Edin S Fife/Lothian & Borders	722
E Central Scotland	723
Grampian & E Highlands	724
N W Scotland	725
Caithness,Orkney & Shetland	726
N Ireland	727

Weathercall is charged at 39p per minute (cheap rate) and 49p per minute at all other times

AA ROADWATCH

For the latest AA traffic/roadworks information, 24 hours a day, dial 0336 401 followed by the appropriate code:

London & SE traffic, roadworks	
Area within M25	731
Essex/Herts/Beds/Bucks/Berks/Oxon	732
Kent/Surrey/Sussex/Hants	734
M25 London Orbital only	736
National traffic and roadworks	
National motorways	737
West Country	738
Wales	739
Midlands	740
East Anglia	741
North-west England	742
North-east England	743
Scotland	744
Northern Ireland	745

AA Roadwatch is charged at 39p per minute (cheap rate) and 49p per minute at all other times.

HIGHEST & LOWEST

Yesterday: Highest day temp: Penzance, Cornwall, 15C (59F); lowest day max: Lerwick, Shetland, 7C (45F); highest rainfall: Buxton, Derbyshire, 0.40in; highest sunshine: Belfast, 4.2hr.

SPEYSIDER

Phone Ar UK on 0345 666777 or contact your travel agent. All major credit cards accepted. Subject to availability and airport tax. Restrictions apply.

FORECAST

☐ **General:** England and Wales will start cloudy, with rain and drizzle across central England. Dry but cloudy conditions will slowly spread west, bringing noticeably colder weather in from the Continent. By this evening wintry showers may affect the North Sea coast.

Scotland will have sunny intervals in the west, while rain peters out in the east. It will turn colder during the day. Northern Ireland will be dry with sunny intervals.

☐ **London, SE England, E Anglia, E England:** rain dying out, staying cloudy. Wintry showers in the East later. Wind north-east, moderate, becoming fresh. Cold. Max 6C (43F).

☐ **Central S England, E Midlands, W Midlands, Channel Isles, NW England; Lake District, Isle of Man, Central N, NE England:** rain slowly dying out from the east, staying cloudy. Wind north, light, becoming northeast, moderate. Turning colder. Max 7C (45F).

☐ **SW England, S Wales, N Wales:** cloudy, rain and drizzle slowing dying out. Wind north, moderate to fresh, becoming northeast, moderate. Max 9C (48F).

☐ **Borders, Edinburgh & Dundee, Aberdeen, SW Scotland, Glasgow, Central Highlands, Moray Firth, NE Scotland, Argyll, NW Scotland:** rain dying out, some sunny intervals. Wind light and variable, becoming east to southeast, light. Turning colder. Max 8C (46F)

☐ **Orkney, Shetland:** cloudy, rain at times. Wind south, moderate, becoming southeast, strong. Max 8C (46F).

☐ **N Ireland:** dry with sunny intervals. Wind north, light, becoming east, light to moderate. Max 8C (46F).

☐ **Outlook:** cold northeasterly winds will bring snow flurries to eastern coasts.

AROUND BRITAIN YESTERDAY

24 hrs to 5 pm: b=bright; c=cloud; d=drizzle; ds=dust storm; du=dull; f=fair; fg=fog; g=gale; h=hail; r=rain; sh=shower; sl=sleet; sn=snow; s=sun; t=thunder

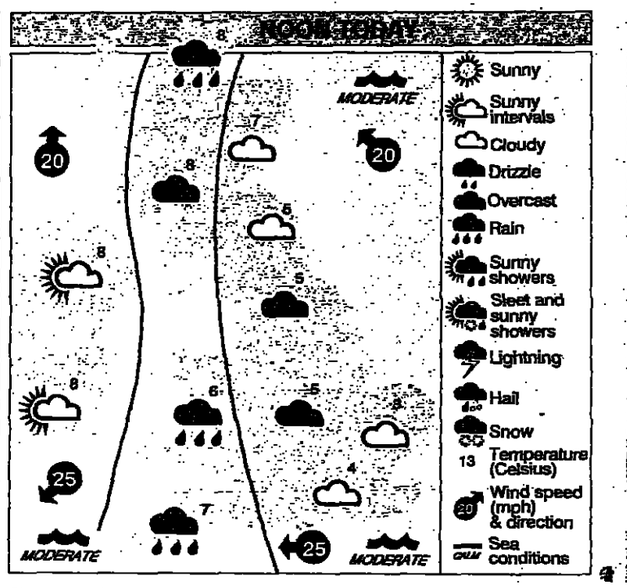
	Sun hrs	Rain in	Max C	Max F			Sun hrs	Rain in	Max C	Max F	
Aberdeen	-	0.30	9	48	r	Liverpool	-	0.08	12	54	r
Anglesey	1.1	0.10	13	55	r	London	-	0.02	12	54	d
Aspatria	0.4	0.25	13	55	r	Lowestoft	X				
Aviemore	-	0.08	13	55	r	Manchester	-	0.20	12	54	r
Belfast	4.2	0.09	10	50	b	Minehead	0.3	0.01	15	59	c
Birmingham	-	0.20	12	54	r	Morecambe	0.1	0.16	13	55	r
Bognor R	-	0.02	13	55	fg	Newcastle	-	0.17	9	48	r
Bournem'th	-	0.31	13	55	r	Newquay	1.4	0.04	13	55	c
Bristol	-	0.09	14	57	r	Norwich	-	-	9	48	d
Buxton	-	0.40	10	50	r	Nottingham	X				
Cardiff	0.3	0.07	12	54	d	Oxford	-	0.20	13	55	r
Clacton	X					Penzance	4.0	0.06	15	59	s
Cleathorpes	X					Plymouth	X				
Colwyn Bay	-	0.04	13	55	c	Poole	-	0.11	14	57	r
Cromer	-	-	8	46	d	Prestatyn	X	0.02	14	57	r
Dunbar	X					Ross-o-wye	-	0.06	13	55	d
Eastbourne	-	0.13	12	54	d	Ryde	X				
Edinburgh	1.8	0.02	13	55	r	Salcombe	X				
Eskdalemuir	0.6	X	11	52	r	Sandown	0.1	0.04	14	57	du
Exmouth	0.8	0.01	13	55	c	Saunin Snd	1.8	0.07	14	57	c
Falmouth	3.4	0.06	14	57	s	Scarboro'	-	0.09	8	46	d
Fishguard	1.0	0.06	12	54	d	Shanklin	0.2	0.02	14	57	d
Folkestone	-	0.33	11	52	r	Shrewsbury	-	0.06	12	54	r
Glasgow	3.0	0.06	13	55	r	Skegness	X				
Guernsey	0.8	0.06	15	59	d	Southend	-	0.02	11	52	d
Hastings	-	0.08	12	54	d	Southport	X				
Hayling I.	-	0.04	12	54	fg	Southsea	-	0.02	13	55	c
Herne Bay	-	0.07	10	50	r	St. Ives	X				
Hove	0.1	0.02	13	55	fg	Stornoway	1.8	0.20	13	55	r
Hunstanton	-	-	9	48	c	Swanage	0.2	0.07	14	57	r
Ilfracombe	X		13	55	du	Teignmouth	0.7	-	14	57	c
Isle of Man	3.3	0.16	13	55	r	Tenby	X				
Jersey	0.2	0.15	14	57	r	Thee	3.7	0.21	11	52	sh
Kinloss	-	0.06	13	55	r	Torquay	1.0	0.01	15	59	b
Leeds	-	0.28	10	50	r	Tynemouth	-	0.17	9	48	r
Lerwick	-	0.18	7	45	r	Ventnor	-	0.03	13	55	fg
Leuchars	0.1	0.02	11	52	r	West-s-mare	X				
Littlehmptn	-	0.03	13	55	d	Weymouth	0.1	0.20	14	57	d

Temperatures at midday local time X = not available

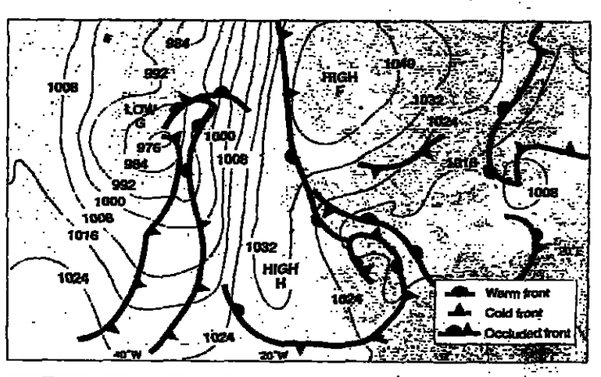
ABROAD

Alaccio	13	55	s	Corfu	14	57	c	Madrid	7	45	fg
Akrotri	18	64	s	C'phagn	0	32	c	Majorca	16	61	c
Alex'dria	20	68	f	Dublin	11	52	s	Malaga	18	64	s
Algiers	14	57	r	Dubrownik	12	54	s	Malta	16	61	f
Amst'dm	2	36	d	Faro	18	64	s	Melb'rne	29	84	s
Athens	15	59	f	Florence	10	50	c	Mexico C	19	66	s
Bahrain	21	70	r	Frankfurt	1	34	c	Miami	26	79	s
Bangkok	32	90	s	Funchal	20	68	s	Milan	8	46	s
Barbados	30	86	f	Geneva	5	41	s	Montreal	0	32	-
Barcelona	11	52	r	Gibraltar	18	64	s	Moscow	-8	18	sn
Beirut	19	66	s	Helsinki	-9	16	s	Munich	-1	30	c
Belfast	10	50	s	Hong K	24	75	s	N Delhi	19	66	s
Belgrade	4	39	f	Innsbrck	1	34	sn	N York	8	46	f
Berlin	-3	27	c	Istanbul	10	50	f	Naples	14	57	f
Bermuda	18	64	c	Jeddah	32	90	f	Nice	13	55	c
Biarritz	15	59	f	Jo'burg	19	66	s	Oslo	0	32	sn
Bordx	14	57	d	Karachi	X			Paris	9	48	c
Brussels	5	41	c	L Angels	13	55	fg	Peking	5	41	s
Budapst	3	37	c	L Palmas	23	73	s	Perth	21	70	s
Cairo	21	70	f	Lo Toust	9	48	f	Prague	0	32	c
Cape Tn	38	82	s	Lisbon	17	63	f	Reykjavik	4	39	r
Ch'church	15	59	c	Locarno	6	43	s	Rhodes	18	64	s
Chicago	6	46	s	Luxembg	3	37	c	Rio de J	30	86	f
Cologne	4	39	c	Luxor	25	77	s	Riyadh	26	79	s
Rome	11	52	f								
S Fr'sco	15	59	r								
S Paulo	24	75	c								
Salzburg	0	32	sn								
Santiago	27	81	s								
Seoul	5	41	s								
Sing'por	30	86	f								
St'kholm	-3	27	c								
Strasb'rg	4	39	c								
Sydney	25	77	s								
Tangier	18	64	s								
Tel Aviv	20	68	s								
Tenerife	23	73	s								
Tokyo	13	55	s								
Toronto	4	39	c								
Tunis	16	59	f								
Valencia	19	66	f								
Vanc'ver	9	48	s								
Venice	7	45	s								
Vienna	3	37	c								
Warsaw	-1	30	c								
Wash'ton	16	61	s								
Wel'ngton	21	70	-								
Zurich	3	37	r								

NOON TODAY



Changes to the chart below from noon: stationary high F will decline slowly; high H will lose its identity: low G will remain almost stationary as it fills



HIGH TIDES

TODAY	AM	HT	PM	HT	TODAY	AM	HT	PM	HT
London Bridge	11:38	7.04	–	–	Leith	0:17	5.07	0:50	5.14
Aberdeen	11.37	4.01	11.48	4.06	Liverpool	9:17	8.47	9:33	8.68
Avonmouth	4:57	11.82	5.22	12.16	Lowestoft	7:18	2.38	7:53	2.41
Belfast	9:04	3.21	9:24	3.25	Margate	10:03	4.47	10:37	4.57
Cardiff	4.37	10.83	5.02	11.26	Milford Haven	4:08	8.22	4.30	8.41
Devonport	3:39	4.96	3:55	5.02	Newquay	2:53	5.08	3.14	5.13
Dover	8.57	6.14	9:32	6.10	Oban	3.43	3.38	4.08	3.68
Dublin	9.57	3.93	10.06	3.92	Penzance	2.40	4.92	2.57	5.02
Falmouth	2:54	4.57	3:11	4.72	Portland	4:31	1.85	4:47	1.80
Glasgow	10:26	4.38	10.59	4.36	Portsmouth	9:20	4.51	9:47	4.38
Harwich	9:42	3.69	10:14	3.82	Shoreham	9:24	5.78	9:50	5.70
Holyhead	8:33	5.15	8:43	5.24	Southampton	8:50	4.35	9:16	4.17
Hull	4.00	6.76	4.42	6.81	Swansea	4:14	8.98	4.36	8.74
Ilfracombe	3:49	8.43	4:12	8.57	Tees	1:21	4.86	2:00	4.88
King's Lynn	4.02	6.03	4:31	6.09	W'ton-on-Nze	9:43	3.88	10:16	4.01

Crown copyright reserved All tide times are GMT

HOURS OF DARKNESS

Sun rises: 7.47 am
Sun sets: 3.54 pm
Moon sets 4.52 am
Moon rises 2.44 pm

London 3.54 pm to 7.49 am
Bristol 4.04 pm to 7.58 am
Edinburgh 3.42 pm to 8.25 am
Manchester 3.52 pm to 8.07 am
Penzance 4.22 pm to 8.04 am

Full moon December 7

©TIMES NEWSPAPERS LIMITED. 1995. Published and printed by Times Newspapers Ltd at 1 Virginia Street, London E1 9XN, telephone 0171-782 5000 and at Knowsley Park Industrial Estate, Kirkby Road, Prescot, Merseyside, L34 9HN, telephone 0151-546 2090. Monday, December 4, 1995. Registered as a newspaper at the Post Office.

هكذا من الأصل

هكذا من الاصل

TENNIS



24
Retreat in Moscow allows Sampras to lift cup

CRICKET



25
Atherton delays S African victory march

SCHOOLS SPORT



33
Grand day out for junior runners in 'National'

ICE HOCKEY

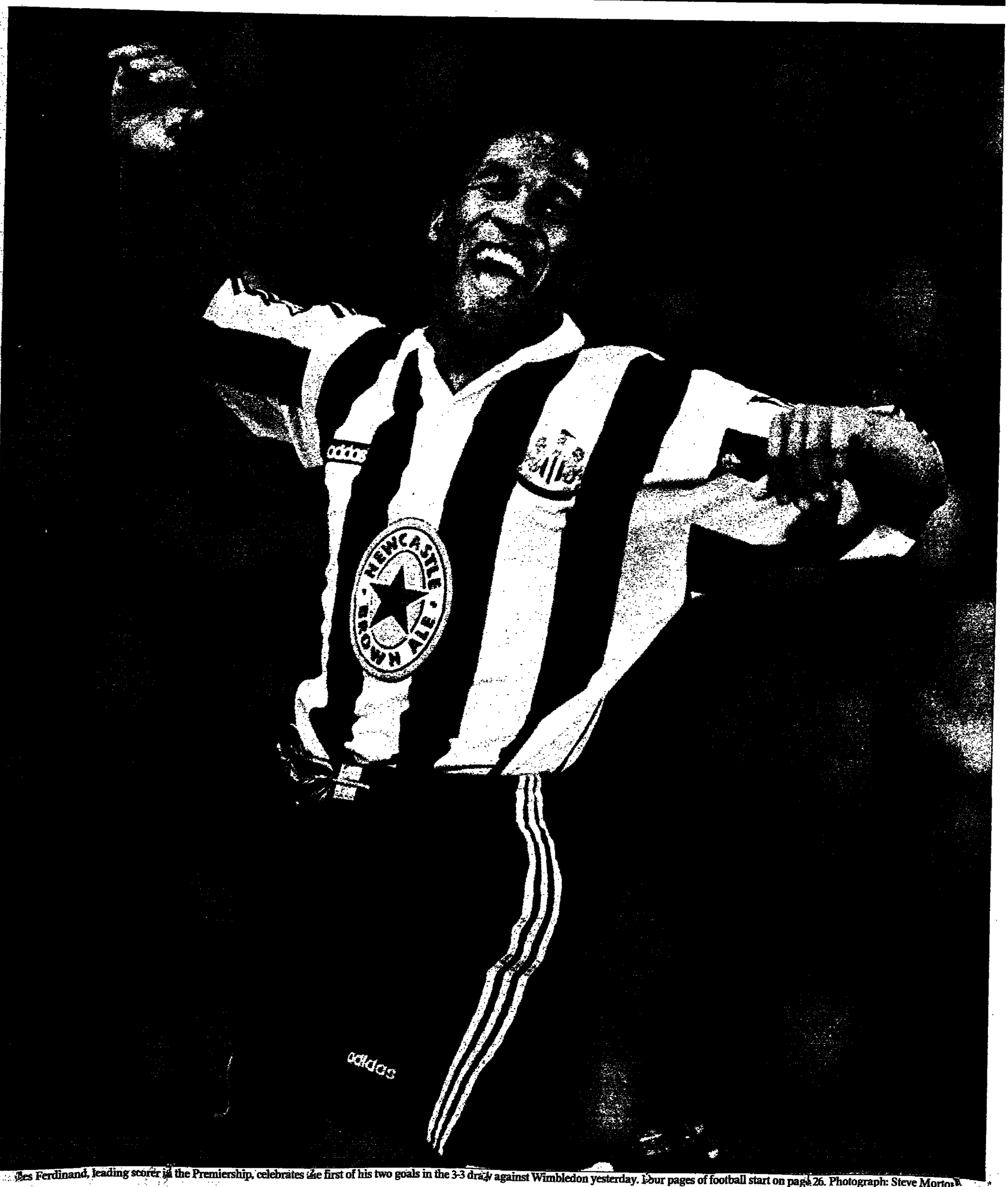


33
Steelers wheel and deal their way to third title

TIMES SPORT

MONDAY DECEMBER 4 1995

GOAL-HAPPY FERDINAND STRIKES AGAIN



Les Ferdinand, leading scorer in the Premiership, celebrates the first of his two goals in the 3-3 draw against Wimbledon yesterday. Four pages of football start on page 26. Photograph: Steve Morton.

Botham takes guard for a thoughtful innings



MATTHEW BOND

TV ACTION REPLAY

There is, I am delighted to report, some good news from Johannesburg. The number of gratuitous bikini shots is falling. What do you mean you will not be getting a dish then?

Since I first mentioned them a fortnight ago, before rain brought a premature end to the swimsuits and the cricket at Centurion Park, a more egalitarian approach has been adopted by the camera operators of the South African Broadcasting Corporation.

It is not that the quick cutaway to a sunbathing beauty ("sweet-aways" as they are known in technical circles) has been abandoned altogether. But, for every glimpse of bronzing blonde, there is now an equal amount of rippling South African male on show. Some, particularly those on the dressing-room balconies, ripple with well-defined muscles, others just ripple over the long-lost waist-band of their shorts.

But there has been progress in the commentary box too. Not only have the likes of Ian Botham and Mark Nicholas learnt to keep their mouths firmly shut whenever a vision of supposed loveliness flashes up on their monitors, but the second Test has confirmed what the rain-affected first Test could only hint at — that this is the best commentary team Sky has so far dispatched on an overseas tour and the first to hold a real edge over the much-loved *Test Match Special* team on Radio 4.

To aid analysis, the satellite team can be broken down easily into three parts — immortals, mortals and Charles Colvile. Let us take the immortals first — David Gower, Ian Botham and Mike Proctor.

Gower continues to improve as a broadcaster and, given the practice the BBC gave him over the summer (*Gower's Cricket Monthly*, *They Think It's All Over* and the Test matches) it cannot be long before the most popular batsman in England becomes one of its better-loved commentators. It will be interesting to see whether it is Sky or the BBC which entrusts him first with the extra responsibility of Richie Benaud-style presentation. That is always assuming that Gower is in the market for extra responsibility.

Proctor, as the token South African, has been well chosen. His contributions have been articulate and intelligent and can be relied upon to provide a helpful guide to what, for a whole generation, is still the brave new world of Cape cricket.

But it is Botham who is the real surprise, on this his first overseas engagement with Sky. Not because he is a brilliant commentator — he is not. But he certainly has the potential to become a very good one.

Botham appears to have completely reinvented his personality. Gone, let us hope forever, is the arrogance and boorish belligerence that made him such a great cricketer but a rather charmless broadcaster on *A Question of Sport*. In its place is a quietly spoken, thoughtful commentator anxious to share his interesting views on the game. On second thoughts, it must be a different Ian Botham.

Moving on to the mortals, Bob Willis continues to be a better commentator than he is ever given credit for, while Nicholas, a man apparently not short of confidence in his own abilities, can normally be relied upon to provide a few provocative but soundly-based opinions.

Which bring us to Charles Colvile, so annoying a commentator that he is probably about to become a cult.

Yesterday, he began his broadcast 800 feet down a gold mine, doing one of his curious travelogue pieces. A lot of people will have been hoping that he would stay there. "The word I would use to describe it is claustrophobic," Colvile announced, confirming his reputation for stating — and normally shouting — the blindingly obvious. He reduced the volume notably for the first Test, but the evidence from the Wanderers is that it is back to "bowled him!" as per noisy normal.

United States crowned champions after fall of Russian pretender

Kafelnikov's surrender accepted by Sampras

FROM DAVID MILLER IN MOSCOW

PETE SAMPRAS, the foremost player in tennis, won the Davis Cup final for the United States as assuredly as Yevgeny Kafelnikov, the young pretender, surrendered it for Russia. When Kafelnikov belatedly found the qualities that have made him the world No 6, the tie was already beyond recovery.

If Kafelnikov, still only 21, is to reach the objectives that lie within the range of his talent, he probably needs to consult an adviser with more front-line experience than the amiable Anatoly Lepeshin, his personal coach and the Russia captain.

Fred Stolle, three times a losing Wimbledon finalist, observed that Harry Hopman, the famed Australian coach, would have had a few sharp words to say when Russia had lost the doubles on Saturday. The significance of Kafelnikov's lacklustre display was emphasised when Andrei Chesnokov won the "dead" last singles against Jim Courier to make the final score three matches to two.

The margin in the first-string singles yesterday between two such accomplished men was as much mental as technical, and was wider than Sampras's three-year advantage in age. On clay, his least-favoured surface, Sampras was cruelly sharp on service and forehand, but Kafelnikov's unforced errors down both flanks scuttled any chance to force the final into a fifth-match decider.

Having won his first-day singles against Chesnokov despite suffering from severe cramp, and having recovered to partner Todd Martin to an unexpected straight-sets doubles victory on Saturday, Sampras now defeated Kafelnikov 6-2, 6-4, 7-6, taking the tie-break 7-4 for a winning 3-1 lead.

With his usual low-key sincerity, Sampras said: "I did it for the Gulliksons. I'm so pleased for Tom." Tim Gullikson, his coach, returned home suddenly from the Australian championships this year stricken with a brain tumour, a debility he is still fighting. Tom, the captain, took the late decision on Saturday morning to include Sampras in the doubles in place of Richey Reneberg.

Kafelnikov will certainly have gone on court knowing the enormity of his task, in front of a 14,000 full-house crowd in the Olympic indoor stadium. Victory was by no means impossible. This year he has reached five semi-finals, including the French, and seven quarter-finals including the Australian and Wimbledon.

What he has still to discover is the temperament, steadiness and variation to match the big opponent on the big day. In successive Davis Cup finals, against Sweden and now the United States, he has failed.

The doubles had drifted away from Russia when Kafelnikov twice lost his service in the second set, as he would do again in the third. He and Andrei Olhovskiy should have punished the tall Martin, vulnerable on low volleys, but they could take only three of 12 break points.

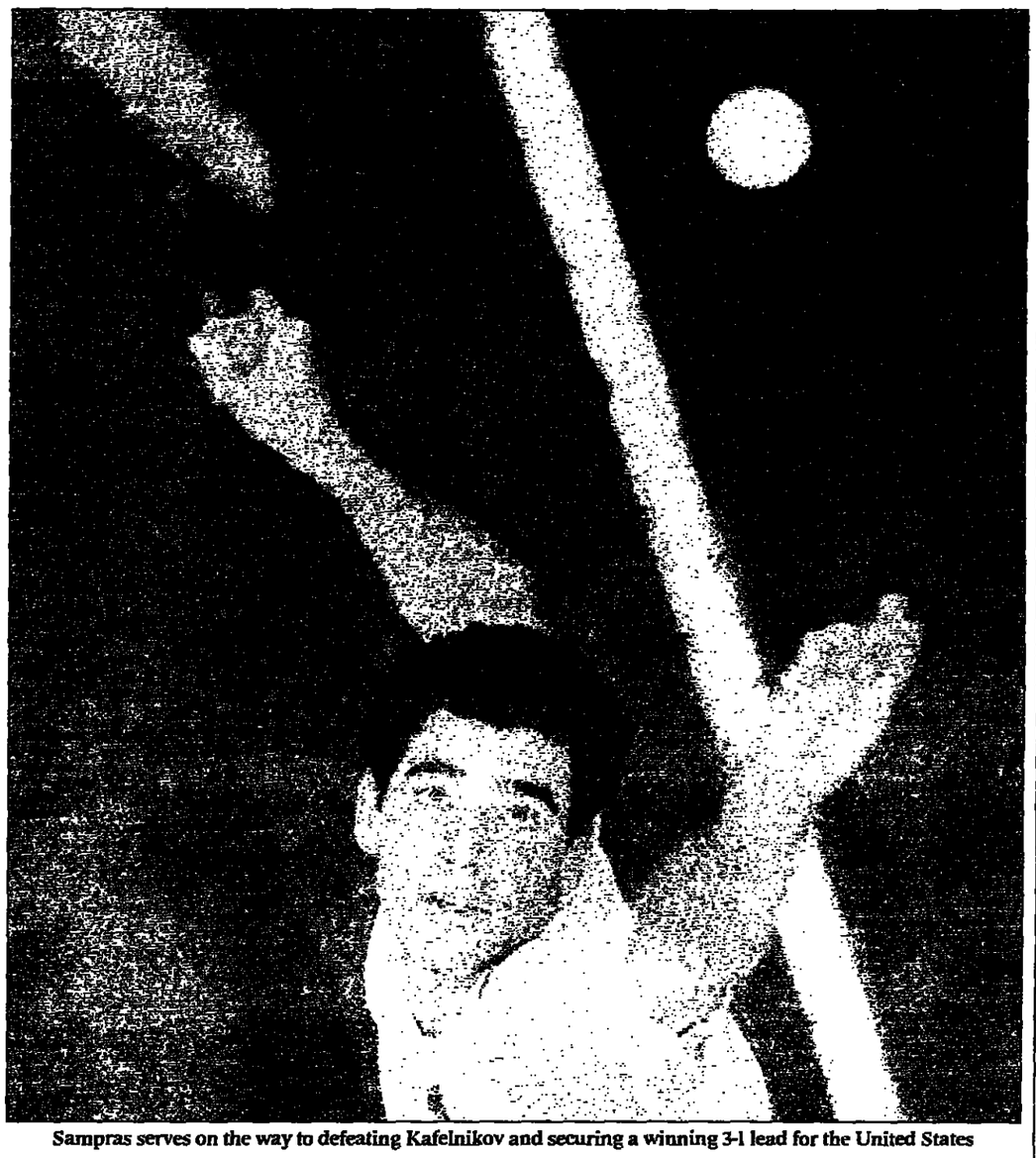
Yesterday, the likely outcome was quickly evident when Kafelnikov squandered his second and third service games and the set 6-2. When Sampras served to love to lead 5-1, it seemed the outside temperature of -10C had penetrated Kafelnikov's mental resistance. Sampras continued, attacking the net, ripping cross-court forehands past his opponent. When he broke for 3-2 in the second set, he was intimidatingly faultless.

Sampras on grass and fast synthetic surfaces can be near-unplayable, but now he was assembling a clay-court armoury almost as impressive. Then, at last, Kafelnikov's touch emerged and a magnificent third set ensued.

Kafelnikov had five break points for 2-0, in a game of seven deuces, but was denied. He was broken in the next game but recovered for 3-3. It was evident that Sampras was now again troubled by his hamstring.

Service breaks were exchanged, with nerve-tingling rallies and winners by both men down the lines, to reach 6-6. At 2-2 in the tie-break, Kafelnikov tried to force a forehand wide, caught the tape and the ball jumped beyond the line: 3-2 for Sampras. The first match point was saved but Sampras clinched the second with his fourteenth ace.

Kafelnikov had denied after the doubles that he had lost interest or needed a new coach. After losing the tie he said that Sampras "didn't leave me chances to change my game". He would think later about what he had learnt. Learn he must.



Sampras serves on the way to defeating Kafelnikov and securing a winning 3-1 lead for the United States

DETAILS

FINAL: United States 3 Russia 2 (US names first: First day: P Sampras bt A Chesnokov 3-6, 6-4, 6-3, 6-7, 6-4; J Courier lost to Y Kafelnikov 6-7, 5-7, 3-6. Sampras and T Martin bt Kafelnikov and A Olkhovskiy 7-5, 6-4, 6-3. Second day: Sampras bt Kafelnikov 6-2, 6-4, 7-6; Courier lost to Chesnokov 7-6, 4-7, 0-6).

SPORT IN BRIEF

Fairbrother regains her winning touch

NICOLA FAIRBROTHER, the European lightweight judo champion, yesterday took a significant stride towards reaching the 1996 Olympic Games when she won the Swiss Open title in Basle, John Goodbody writes.

In an event which is one of a series of qualifying competitions for the Games, Fairbrother, who was second in Barcelona in 1992, showed that she had recovered from her disappointment in only finishing ninth at the world championships two months ago. In the first round, she defeated Jessica Gal, of Holland, and in the final beat Mariko Fujiwara, of Japan. Britain's other gold medal-winner was Julian Davies, a featherweight, who defeated Passi Lauren, of Finland, in the final.

McLardy ordered off

BOWLS: John McLardy was given his marching orders in the CIS Insurance Scottish Indoor Fours championship at Auchinleck yesterday. The Galleon Club skip was barred from taking his place in the second-round match against Auchinleck after a clash with the umpire, Roger Black.

Black, who was a Scottish football referee for 20 years, said: "I spoke to the player on two occasions regarding his general conduct on the green and, after the second warning, he launched a verbal attack on me within earshot of various officials and other bowlers." McLardy's place was taken by his club-mate, Willie Mackie, but their side went on to lose the match 22-7.

Enstone wins again

RUGBY FIVES: Wayne Enstone gave another remarkable exhibition of skill to win his 23rd national singles title at St Paul's School. Enstone, 44, still appearing as fit as ever, overcame the rugged challenge of Neil Roberts, of Yorkshire, who had a tough battle with Rick Carr in the semi-final. Enstone, head of physical education at Stockport College, has brought a new dimension to Rugby fives over the years, producing shots which defy the imagination and covering the court with unparalleled assurance.

Arsenal dispel doubts

WOMEN'S FOOTBALL: It has been a difficult season for Arsenal, double-winners last year, who are third in the National Premier League and nine points behind Doncaster Belles at the top. However, they soon dispelled any signs of a confidence crisis as they trounced the visiting Manchester United 10-0 in the Women's FA Cup at Bromley FC. United are unbeaten in the North-West Regional League, but Arsenal showed them how far they have yet to climb.

Pavin powers home



GOLF: Corey Pavin, right, of the United States, playing near-flawless golf, pulled away from the overnight co-leader, Nick Price, of Zimbabwe, to win the Million Dollar Challenge in Sun City, South Africa, yesterday. Pavin, the US Open champion, shot a six under par 66 to finish on 276. Price shot a 71 to finish on 281 with Bernhard Langer, of Germany, third on 283.

Lynch's double first

ATHLETICS: Nnenna Lynch, the Oxford University student who won the women's race in the University cross-country match on Wimbledon Common on Saturday, broke the women's course record in the Victory five miles road race at Portsmouth yesterday. The final-year social anthropology student from the United States missed the US championships to compete at Wimbledon in her last chance to do so.

Sheldon reaches final

REAL TENNIS: Kevin Sheldon, of Leamington, reached the final of the British Land National Over-40s championship with victory over David Johnson, the Queen's Club professional. Sheldon took an early lead, thanks to some clever changes of pace and direction, and held on to win 8-4. He meets Alan Oliver, the Oxford professional, in the final.

Carter clinches victory

LACROSSE: Middlesex became the All England women's senior county champions at Benenden School on Saturday, beating Berkshire by a late goal from Philippa Carter. Middlesex eliminated the holders, Surrey, in their semi-final which ended goalless after five minutes of sudden-death extra time, thanks to a better goal average in the play-offs.

Workington left to count cost of Newlove's arrival

St Helens 58
Workington 10

BY CHRISTOPHER IRVINE

ST HELENS were sublime yesterday and, on his debut, Paul Newlove caught the mood. The world's costliest rugby league player joined in the orgy of try-scoring at Knowsley Road in a first payback on the £500,000 investment.

He left it late. In space and with the line beckoning, Newlove tripped on the greasy surface but had time to gather himself and slither over for the last of St Helens' 11 tries in the 76th minute.

Home supporters were asked to dip into their pockets by an extra £1 on the admission price, but none of the 7,000 crowd — 1,000 up on the corresponding fixture last year — could complain. In a side of experienced and aspiring talents, Newlove is a genuine addition of class.

The signs of a bountiful relationship with Anthony Sullivan were writ large. Sullivan is the game's deadliest wing right now, and two of his four tries, taking his tally for the season to 24, came courtesy of Newlove's strength, vision and cussedness in possession.

It was down the left side that Workington were taken apart. "It has all the hallmarks of a great partnership," Sullivan said of Newlove, who returned the compliment. "He is a class act and as soon as he's got the ball in his hands, he's away," he said.

Sullivan's finishing was unstoppable, but the lead-up to each of his touchdowns owed everything to the inspiration of team-mates. The back row of Busby, Perelini and the magnificent Joynt was behind his first try with a series of barnstorming runs, before Newlove fought off Pape to send the Wales wing in for his second.

Fogerty drove over from short range, and excellent acceleration by Arnold produced a try. The momentum was whipped up again after Fawcett's try.

Until then, Newlove lurked with intent as colleagues sped through a demoralised Workington defence, but with little sign of a scoring pass. He was the provider again when he released Sullivan, who floated a precise inside pass for Hammond to go over.

Joynt scored a deserved try, Fogerty went over after a break by Cunningham and Newlove, seemingly wrapped up by two tacklers, managed to slip Sullivan clear again.

Newlove's purchase is with the Super League next year in mind. The Stones Championship is beyond St Helens, but the interest Newlove can generate will be immense, particularly after his 259th game was marked by the 210th try of his career.

Craig Dean and Wayne Parker, the half backs, scored two tries apiece as Halifax beat Leeds 29-10 and stayed on course to fulfil the prediction of their coach, Steve Simms, that they would finish the season as runners-up in the Stones Championship.

SCORERS: St Helens: Tries: Sullivan (4), Fogerty (2), Northey, Arnold, Hammond, Joynt, Newlove. Goals: Goulding (7). Workington: Tries: Fawcett (2). Goal: Marwood.

ST HELENS: D Lyon (sub: D Arnold, 13min); J Hayes, A Northey, P Newlove, A Sullivan; K Hammond, R Goulding, A Fogerty (sub: C Morley, 52), K Cunningham, A Leytham (sub: I Pickavance, 49), C Joynt, A Perelini, D Busby (sub: P Wanng, 65).

WORKINGTON: M Johnson; D Fraisse (sub: P Pernice, 49), L Campbell, V Fawcett, K Pape, D Marwood, W Kitchin (sub: M Bethwaite, 49), G Schubert (sub: L Filipo, 34), P Mckenzie, R Phillips, C Armstrong, W McGarry, J Paimoka.

Referee: R Connolly.

Silver lining from Willey and Wilson

FROM CRAIG LORD IN RIO DE JANEIRO

BRITAIN's squad of five swimmers took their final medal tally at the world short-course championships to one gold, two silvers and a bronze here yesterday as Neil Willey and Ian Wilson both finished runners-up a day after Sarah Hardcastle had added a bronze medal to the world 800 metres freestyle title that she won on Friday.

Willey, at 19 the youngest



Wilson: back to form

entry in the 100 metres backstroke, spent almost six hours as the fastest swimmer in the world this year over the distance after a morning heat time of 53.47sec, his career best time and just inside the target time he had set himself for the final.

However, Rudolfo Falcon, of Cuba, stole his thunder in the final and left the Hertfordshire teenager "a little disappointed". Willey led the race until five metres to go, when the superior fitness of the student from Havana told. Falcon's 53.12sec was a national record, while Willey's 53.23sec was just 0.08sec outside Martin Harris's British standard.

Wilson, from the City of Leeds club, has suffered a setback in fortunes over 1,500 metres freestyle in Britain these past two years. But he bounced back to finish second to Australia's Daniel Kowalski yesterday. Kowalski recorded 14min 48.51sec and Wilson 14min 49.72sec, just two seconds outside the British record of Paul Palmer and a personal best time.

Hardcastle, of Bracknell, won the bronze medal in Saturday's 400 metres freestyle final with a time of 4min 07.20sec.

The weekend highlights were provided by Australian Samantha Riley, who clocked a world record of 1min 05.70sec in the 100 metres breaststroke, and by Liu Limin, of China, who set a new world mark of 58.68sec in the women's 100 metres butterfly.

Results, page 32

Hendry builds lead to test Ebdon's recovery powers

BY PHIL YATES

STEPHEN HENDRY has conjured up countless telling clearances during his career and he produced another trio on the way to establishing a 7-2 lead over Peter Ebdon in the final of the Royal Liver Assurance United Kingdom championship in Preston yesterday.

Hendry, attempting to retain the title and triumph in snooker's second most important event for the fourth time, signalled his intent with a break of 118 in the first frame — his tenth century of the tournament — and the die was cast.

By missing the penultimate red, Ebdon squandered a gilt-edged opportunity to steal the second frame from 48-0 in arrears and, when Hendry comfortably accounted for the next two frames for a 4-0 advantage, it was clear that Ebdon's famous powers of recovery would be tested to the full.

Eight months ago Ebdon fought back from 4-0 down and 5-1 down to beat Hendry 9-8 in the final of the Benson & Hedges Irish Masters and, when he won the fifth frame with a break of 76 before moving 49-0 ahead in the sixth, the possibility of another such revival loomed large.

Ebdon missed a tricky red, though, and despite the balls being far from ideally placed, Hendry, cueing with total authority, cleared to the pink with 66.

That guaranteed a 5-1 lead for the Scot and he was to benefit from a virtual action replay in the seventh frame. Ebdon, 51 points to the good, surprisingly jawed the blue to a baulk pocket and Hendry displayed his renowned composure under pressure to construct a 69 clearance.

It was a similar story in the eighth frame as Ebdon, 45-17 up, undercut a relatively straightforward black off its spot. Hendry ran out with 52 and although Ebdon won the closing frame of the afternoon, a low scoring, disjointed affair, he was still left with a mountainous task.

Hendry, already successful in the Regal Scottish Masters and Skoda Grand Prix this season, required only three of the remaining ten frames for a £70,000 first prize which, in addition to the £25,000 he received for compiling a maximum break of 147 against Gary Wilkinson in the last 16, was set to swell his total prize money for the fledgling 1995-96 campaign to £231,250.

Hendry's 9-1 semi-final victory over John Higgins on Saturday suggested that Ebdon would find him difficult to contain. It was such a relentlessly excellent display that Higgins was left doubting his own ability eventually to displace Hendry as the world No 1.

"At this point I don't feel I've got Stephen's touch at the table and I think it could take me two or three years to get it," Higgins, the only player within striking distance of Hendry in the provisional standings, said.

It must, however, be taken into consideration that Higgins was considerably handicapped by a hard, unresponsive cue tip which shattered his confidence, particularly when it came to positional play.

"I tried to tell myself I'd got a chance but deep down I knew I was struggling."

MESH TECHNIQUE
HerniaRepair
Performed as day case under local anaesthesia by specialist surgeons • Fast, effective treatment • Overnight stay available • Affordable all inclusive fees • DHA registered • All major health insurers recognised.
The London Hernia Centre
0171-328 1228

هكذا من الأصل

Atherton stands alone with South Africa on verge of completing crushing victory



Atherton's attacking intent is thwarted by the shin of McMillan during the England captain's undefeated innings of 82 yesterday. Photograph: Graham Morris

England's defiance fades away

FROM ALAN LEE
CRICKET CORRESPONDENT
IN JOHANNESBURG

JOHANNESBURG (fourth day of five): England, with six second-innings wickets in hand, need 312 runs to beat South Africa

ENGLAND took the field here yesterday to a rousing rendition of the national anthem over the public-address system. It was played at their own request, a defiant motivational device, and it prefaced a day on which their wicket-keeper broke a world record, their principal bowler completed a nine-wicket haul in the match and their captain batted unbeaten and unbowed for almost five hours. But it was not nearly enough, and today they will assuredly fall behind in the Test series with South Africa, just as they have fallen behind in every away series for four years.

Defeat will stun them, for they had come into this second Test convinced that they were the superior side. And yet they must know the pain is self-induced, the blame all theirs for handing control of the game to South Africa on the opening morning.

Since those fateful moments, when team and toss were misguidedly resolved, England have been chasing this game, and though they chased with greater tenacity yesterday, they had about as much chance as a racehorse left in the stalls in a five-furlong sprint.

Typically, the odds did not deter Michael Atherton. Stubbornness is occasionally his undoing but, when the requirement is to bat for almost two days, with victory an historical impossibility and survival only slightly less remote, Atherton is your man.

Confronted by a target of 479, 73 more than any side has made to win a Test batting last, lesser men would have wilted, responsibility coming second best to hopelessness. Some of his colleagues did wilt. But Atherton saw the day through in his familiar guise, the captain on the burning deck, and this morning he will tell himself that, if he can bat for another six hours, salvation awaits.

In terms of mental strength, the mirror image of Atherton among the South Africans is Brian McMillan. His application is boundless and, yesterday, he completed the second Test century of a thus far underrated career.

He did so by stage-managing a last-wicket stand of 32 with Allan Donald, surviving a bristling spell from the indefatigable Dominic Cork and hustling a single to the acclaim of his home-town ground, where the gates were closed with 30,000 inside.

It was a memorable atmosphere, too, for the creation of a little cricketing history. When Jack Russell held a routine catch to dismiss Clive Eksteen, he performed a high-stepping dance and hurled himself into the arms of Cork. For this was Russell's eleventh catch of the game, breaking the world Test record set by Bob Taylor in Bombay 16 winters ago.

Appropriately, Taylor was here, genuinely delighted to be usurped by a wicketkeeper of whom he has always approved, and, if most of Russell's catches were undemanding, the low, one-handed swoop to end Jonty Rhodes's half-century on Saturday afternoon was as good as anything in Taylor's distinguished collection.

Cork, who provided five of Russell's victims, finished with a match analysis of nine for 162. After only seven Tests, in one of which he did not bowl, he has taken 35 wickets and the one caveat to lavishing praise upon his emergence is the plain risk that he will be overbowled. His 63.3 overs here were more than the aggregate bowled by Devon Malcolm and Darren Gough.

Malcolm somehow finished the game with six wickets and only showed his most wayward nature when crazily bowling three consecutive short balls to McMillan in the final over on Saturday. Implacably, McMillan hooked them for six, four and six.

Gough has had a match to forget, wicketless and painful. Struck on his bowling arm when batting, he wore heavy strapping on Saturday, written across it the words: "No pain, no gain. Be strong." Still, the force was not with him.

Fraser atoned to some degree for an inept first innings and deserved his three wickets, the last of them donated by Pringle's irresolution. But, once Cronje had claimed another psychological point by declaring, half an hour from lunch, yesterday's episode began in earnest. In 15 previous Tests on this ground the highest fourth-innings score is 261 and, if England did not know in advance, no team batting second here has won. This was deflating knowledge for Atherton and Alec Stewart to take out with them.

Their comfort came from a pitch that remained fairly true and, for 88 minutes, they sustained English hopes with an opening stand of 75. Then Stewart, never quite commanding in this game, drove loosely over an inswinging yorker from McMillan and ushered on Mark Ramprakash to bat, once more, for his England future.

It did not take long. Struck on the pad first ball, he drove around the next and was bowled between bat and pad. Sad and scarcely explicable though it is, he must now be replaced.

Graham Thorpe began skittishly, swatting and flapping at anything short, then underwent a metamorphosis and became utterly strokeless. In 75 minutes after tea he scored one run before, toppling across his stumps against Pringle's inswing, he was leg-before. Hick failed for the second time, to give Donald his hundredth Test wicket and Atherton now wore that well-practised look of one who has been stood up by his mates.

His duel with Donald was riveting, but in a final session that brought only 63 runs from 38 overs he gave nothing away and passed 50 for the 35th time in 99 Test innings. A ninth century is merely the starting point of his ambitions for today.

SCOREBOARD FROM JOHANNESBURG

SOUTH AFRICA: First Innings 332 (G Kirsten 110, D J Cullinan 69; D G Cork 5 for 84, D E Malcolm 4 for 62).

Second Innings

A C Hudson c Russell b Fraser ... 17 (34min, 35 balls, 3 fours)
G Kirsten c Russell b Malcolm ..... 1 (25min, 19 balls)
*W J Cronje c Russell b Cork ..... 48 (167min, 93 balls, 5 fours)
D J Cullinan c Gough b Cork ..... 61 (101min, 88 balls, 11 fours)
J N Rhodes c Russell b Fraser .... 57 (172min, 134 balls, 7 fours)
B M McMillan not out ..... 100 (276min, 168 balls, 3 sixes, 9 fours)
†D J Richardson c Ramprakash b Malcolm ..... 23 (44min, 28 balls, 3 fours)
S M Pollock low b Cork ..... 5 (28min, 23 balls)
C E Eksteen c Russell b Cork ..... 2 (17min, 14 balls)
M W Pringle c Hick b Fraser ..... 2 (8min, 9 balls)
A A Donald not out ..... 9 (37min, 23 balls, 1 four)
Extras (b 5, lb 12, w 1, nb 3) 21

Total (9 wkts dec, 104.3 overs, 471min) 346

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-7 (Hudson 5), 2-19 (Cronje 10), 3-116 (Cronje 33), 4-145 (Rhodes 12), 5-244 (McMillan 47), 6-296 (McMillan 76), 7-304 (McMillan 79), 8-311 (McMillan 79), 9-314 (McMillan 80).

BOWLING: Cork 31.3-6-78-4 (nb 1, w 1; 6-0-16-0, 4-0-8-0, 10-3-32-2, 11.3-3-22-2); Malcolm 13-2-65-2 (7-2-18-1, 4-0-24-0, 2-0-23-1); Fraser 29-6-84-3 (nb 4; 8-2-24-1, 7-2-14-0, 5-0-22-1, 9-2-24-1); Gough 12-2-48-0 (nb 2; 4-0-20-0, 8-2-28-0); Hick 15-3-35-0 (1-0-4-0, 10-3-19-0, 4-0-12-0); Ramprakash 4-0-19-0 (one spell).

SCORING NOTES: Third day: Lunch: 91-2 (31 overs, 138min; Cronje 28, Cullinan 42) Tea: 162-4 (57 overs, 259min; Rhodes 27, McMillan 15). Close: 296-6 (86.3 overs, 379min; McMillan 76, Pollock 0).

ENGLAND: First Innings 200 (R A Smith 52).

Second Innings

*M A Atherton not out ..... 82 (289min, 216 balls, 11 fours)
A J Stewart b McMillan ..... 38 (88min, 76 balls, 4 fours)
M R Ramprakash b McMillan ..... 0 (2min, 2 balls)
G P Thorpe low b Pringle ..... 17 (119min, 84 balls, 2 fours)
G A Hick c Richardson b Donald .. 4 (19min, 17 balls, 1 four)
R A Smith not out ..... 11 (57min, 47 balls, 2 fours)
Extras (lb 3, nb 12) 15

Total (4 wkts, 71 overs, 289min) 167

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-75 (Atherton 26), 2-75 (Atherton 26), 3-134 (Atherton 67), 4-145 (Atherton 74).

BOWLING: Donald 18-4-52-1 (nb 2; 7-0-24-0, 9-2-28-0, 2-2-0-1); Pringle 11-1-28-1 (nb 3; 5-0-14-0, 6-1-14-1); Pollock 10-4-25-0 (nb 4; 3-1-20-0, 5-2-3-0, 2-1-2-0); McMillan 10-0-27-2 (nb 6; 7-0-23-2, 3-0-4-0); Eksteen 22-8-32-0 (5-4-1-0, 6-1-14-0, 5-1-9-0, 6-2-8-0).

SCORING NOTES: Fourth day: Lunch: 11-0 (4 overs, 17min; Atherton 4, Stewart 4). Tea: 104-4 (33 overs, 138min; Atherton 39, Thorpe 18).

Umpires: D B Hair (Australia) and K E Liebenberg (SA).

TV replay umpire: R E Koertzen.

Match referee: C H Lloyd (West Indies).

RESULTS: First Test (Pretoria): match drawn.

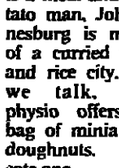
MATCHES TO COME: Third Test (Durban): Dec 14 to 18. Fourth Test (Port Elizabeth): Dec 26 to 30. Fifth Test (Cape Town): Jan 2 to 6.

☐ *Compiled by Bill Frindall*

DISMISSALS

11: Jack Russell, England v S Africa, Johannesburg, 1995. 10: Bob Taylor, England v India, Bombay, 1960. 9: Gilbert Langley, Australia v England, Lord's, 1956, David Murray, W Indies v Australia, Melbourne, 1981: Rodney Marsh, Australia v England, Brisbane, 1982. Amal Silva, S Lanka v India, Colombo (1st Test), 1985; Amal Silva, S Lanka v India, Colombo (2nd Test), 1985; Dave Richardson, S Africa v India, Port Elizabeth, 1992; Rashid Latif, Pakistan v N Zealand, Auckland, 1994

Vain search for dark cloud on home horizon



Clement Freud finds Raymond Illingworth at one with the world, apart from the food and weather

Not much in the way of breathless hushes in the close today; clouds in the sky — on which depend our hopes of avoiding defeat — are a fluffy white when we need ominous black. Cork, Fraser and Malcolm bowl with verve and McMillan hits them with aggression.

Raymond Illingworth sits in the pavilion watching the action through blue-tinged sunglasses, the very model of a tour supremo. He is dressed, as are the players, in black shorts and short-sleeved white shirt, bearing the Tetley emblem; he wears classy beach sandals, his men are shod in regulation trainers.

As I joined him, the home team are 430 runs ahead with three second-innings wickets in hand, not the ideal scenario for an optimistic thump on the back and a cheerful phrase like: "I think we've got 'em."

I thank him for inviting me to come and sit by him and ask how he is enjoying South Africa. He is enjoying South Africa, and likes being with a team who are a bunch of good guys. He mentions that Johannesburg is not a safe place in which to go out at night and that he is not "carried away" with the food. Illingworth is a meat and potato man. Johannesburg is more of a curried fish and rice city. As we talk, the physio offers a bag of miniature doughnuts. He eats one.

We discuss the spirits of England players and his relationship with Michael Atherton. He is bullish about both, partners the captain at bridge in the evenings "and we are winning".

Whom do you play?

The doctor and the scorer; occasionally the man from the *Evening Standard* comes in for a game. (Later I try to gauge the quality of Illy's skill at the card table, but my colleague pleads the Fifth Amendment.)

Russell takes a catch, having missed one earlier, and the scoreboard announces that our wicketkeeper's tally of 11 victims is a world record. Illy thinks Russell has come on a ton. "He is now the best kind of senior pro — being captain of his county has made him appreciate the problems of others."

Good news about previously difficult men. Hicks is more outgoing than he was, though there is still some way to go. Malcolm keeps himself to himself, spends his time with his Walkman — but is well liked. Cork is a great team man. Gough a problem.

"What Gough needs is to take a few wickets and score a half-century. You can tell from his body language that something is missing; he needs to bubble."

We watch him fielding in the covers; no bubble.

Who is the life and soul of the party?

"Ilott and the physio." As they are sitting behind us, listening, there might be a modicum of diplomacy in this assessment. He may also be the only man on the ground who is satisfied with the umpires, thinks they have done a good job in difficult conditions.

"Up to the second Test," he says, "we have been doing well. Here at the Wanderers, we just haven't batted or bowled as well as we could; had we done so, we would have got them out for 250 in the first innings and the boys would have been home. Now we'll have to play well to get out of it."



'Putting them in was the correct decision'

He cites figures of fourth innings scores in the 400s which have been made to save games.

I tell him that odds against the draw are substantial. He says: "They should be."

Was it a good toss to win?

No.

Have we the right attack? We have; with a hard, fast pitch, four seamers is right and putting them in to bat was the correct decision. When we come across a green pitch, we will play a spinner ... Richard Illingworth.

Hick takes a good low catch to dismiss Eksteen and the physio explains that, with a convex ground and the colourful crowd as backdrop, low catches are hard to take. McMillan hits a six. Sixes are hard, also. This is McMillan's third. Illingworth takes it like a man but even he cannot recall a 479 fourth-innings score.

He has a house in Pudsey — where great cricketers are born — and another near Marbella, where his wife and two daughters and four grandchildren have a happy time in the sun. He is a man at ease with himself.

We take another long look at the clouds, which are benign. Illingworth thinks that we were doing so well in the first Test match that the rain probably saved the home side; now it should be our turn to be beholden to the weather. He gestures hopefully at the clouds to the southwest ... but it could be that his sunglasses are giving him a less rosy view of the sky.

TELEVISION

Day by day the best for sport

Times Sport on Monday leads the way with comprehensive, in depth coverage of the weekend action. This week, Alan Lee and Clement Freud follow the fortunes of the England cricket team in South Africa. David Hands, Christopher Irvine and Andrew Longmore launch an investigation into rugby union's 100-day revolution into professionalism. Tomorrow, Rob Hughes (below), the most influential



voice in football, reviews the world scene, and on Wednesday reports on Nottingham Forest's bid to carry the British flag in Europe. With a racing team led by Richard Evans and Julian Muscat and the regular columns of John Bryant and Simon Barnes, *The Times* puts the best team in sports journalism on the field every day.

Gallian enjoys his day of domination

FROM PAT GIBSON IN RAWALPINDI

JASON GALLIAN, who had the misfortune to make his entry into Test cricket against the West Indies last summer, when all he had to show for four innings were 32 runs and a broken finger, looked much more like an England opening batsman in the making here yesterday.

Gallian batted from dawn to dusk to finish unbeaten on 146 and, with Ian Salisbury, who had gone in as night-watchman and stayed to make 86 of a second wicket partnership of 197, gave England A a chance of winning the second international and taking a 2-0 lead in the three-match series with Pakistan A.

By the time Nasser Hussain, the captain, got to the crease, they were in the happy position of being able to push for victory without fear of defeat and he made his intentions clear by scoring 40 off 48 balls so that England A finished the fourth day 67 ahead with eight wickets in hand.

It was, said Hussain, probably the best day of the tour, especially when you bear in mind that three or four of his side had a right to feel a trifle disillusioned after hearing that the Test and County Cricket Board's interpretation of the conditions for the World Cup early next year may have cost them their chances of making the England squad.

The Pakistan Cricket Board insists that the final 14 must come from the provisional lists of 20, which have already been submitted, and England's does not include any of the A team players.

If the likes of Headley, whose six wickets on Saturday mean that he has now taken 20 in four innings, and Hussain are discouraged, it has not shown. England A have again outclassed their opponents while endeavouring to make up for lost time after the match began more than a day and a half late.

Gallian clearly set his stall out to bat all day and so, surprisingly, did Salisbury. As Hussain said, he played like a proper batsman as he went past his previous best of 74, against Gloucestershire at Hove last year, before slicing a weary drive to cover. Gallian went on tirelessly — he has hit two sixes and 12 fours from 306 balls — and, when Hussain increased the momentum, not even desperate attempts to slow the game could halt the English charge.

Scoreboard, page 32

Captains duel for third Test supremacy

FROM MICHAEL HENDERSON
IN SYDNEY

AN OUTSTANDING Test match will conclude today in favour either of Australia, who need another 126 runs to record a third successive win, or Pakistan, who must take seven more wickets. The performance of the captains is providing a compelling subplot to the main story.

Mark Taylor, the leading batsman of the series with 328 runs, will resume today one short of his half-century. Wasim Akram, who has again bowled superbly, removed Mark Waugh to a catch at the wicket in the last over but one and came within a whisker of getting Taylor two balls later.

Then there are the spinners, who bowled splendidly, and lucklessly, in a wonderful last session. Mushtaq had Slater leg-before with his "wrong one", as he calls it, and Saqlain had Boon caught at silly point by Moin, normally a wicketkeeper but on this occasion a substitute fielder.

Waugh's wicket may prove to be crucial. He batted delightfully in the first innings to make his ninth Test hundred, and had begun his second innings in a similar vein, advancing down the pitch to drive Saqlain over the top and pull Mushtaq into the crowd at mid-wicket.

On a day when the Pakistanis considered themselves hard done by regarding leg-before decisions, it was an error by Steve Randell that gave Wasim his late success. The ball clearly brushed the top of Waugh's front pad on its way through to Rashid, but the umpire's finger went up. Wasim had himself been on the wrong end of a more debatable decision by Randell earlier in the piece.

It was one of those days when all the marginal decisions went against the touring side, until Randell's aberration. Australia won five leg-before decisions in the Pakistan second innings (three given by Randell, two by Harold Bird) and Taylor received the benefit of the doubt twice in an over towards the close when he padded up to Mushtaq.

The first leg-before of the day, against Malik, was the easiest to give. He simply missed one from Mark Waugh that turned in to him. With his departure, for 45, went Pakistan's hopes of setting a formidable target. Although Inzamam played brightly for a half-century, the last five wickets went down for 19 runs. McDermott taking four for 11 in 36 balls to record a much-needed "five-for" as Pakistan were put out for 204.

Australia were a bowler light by then, Reiffel having pulled a calf muscle, an injury that makes him a doubtful starter for the first Test against Sri Lanka, which begins in Perth on Friday. McDermott has not bowled particularly well against Pakistan, shaded in Brisbane and Hobart by the improving McGrath. On McGrath's home ground, though, the "old-timer" has regained his stripes.

To the end, Australia's fielding was top-notch. Taylor held a screamer to end Inzamam's innings and Mark Waugh, brought in to silly point earlier in the over, dived in front of Saqlain to accept the catch he popped up when McDermott banged one in short. Waugh has enjoyed a belting match with bat, ball and hands.

Pakistan's fielding continues to let them down. Inzamam, who looks plain dozy, missed Slater at slip and Boon was granted two lives in his brief stay. Moin's catch to dismiss Boon, spooned off the back of the bat, was a good effort, far more impressive than his glovework behind the stumps in the first two Tests.

The abiding memory of the Test, once again, came from the back of Warne's miraculous right hand. Before the final ball of Saturday's play, he kept Basit Ali waiting as a deliberate ploy to try the patience of this wayward batsman and held a mid-pitch consultation with Healy, who dared him to "bowl him between his legs".

Warne, bowling round the wicket into the rough, proceeded to do just that, ripping a vicious leg break that Basit, offering a pad, completely failed to counter. Warne was not supposed to play here yet he has taken eight wickets. Truly, he is one of the wonders of this age, or any other.

SCOREBOARD FROM SYDNEY

PAKISTAN: First Innings 299 (Ijaz Ahmed 137; S K Warne 4-55).

Second Innings

Aamir Sohail c Boon b McDermott 9
Ramiz Raja c M Waugh b Warne 39
Ijaz Ahmed lbw b Warne 15
Salim Malik lbw b M Waugh 45
Basit Ali b Warne 14
Inzamam-ul-Haq c Taylor b McDermott 59
*Wasim Akram lbw b McDermott 5
†Rashid Latif low b Warne 3
Saqlain Mushtaq c M Waugh b McDermott 2
Mushtaq Ahmed lbw b McDermott 2
Waqar Younis not out 1
Extras (b 1, lb 5, nb 4) 10

Total 204

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-18, 2-58, 3-82, 4-101, 5-163, 6-185, 7-188, 8-198, 9-203.

BOWLING: McDermott 15.3-0-49-5; McGrath 17-3-47-0; Reiffel 8.3-2-15-0, Warne 37-13-86-4; M Waugh 14-4-21-1; Blewett 2-2-0-0.

AUSTRALIA: First Innings

M J Slater b Wasim 1
*M A Taylor c Rashid b Saqlain Mushtaq 47
D C Boon c Rashid b Mushtaq Ahmed 16
M E Waugh c Mushtaq Ahmed b Wasim 116
S R Waugh st Rashid b Mushtaq Ahmed 38
G S Blewett b Mushtaq Ahmed 5
†I A Healy c Rashid b Mushtaq Ahmed . 6
P R Reiffel not out 10
S K Warne c Rashid b Wasim 2
C J McDermott b Wasim 0
G D McGrath c Wasim b Mushtaq Ahmed 0
Extras (lb 6, nb 10) 16

Total 257

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-2, 2-44, 3-91, 4-174, 5-182, 6-226, 7-240, 8-249, 9-249

BOWLING: Wasim Akram 24-4-50-4; Waqar Younis 11-4-26-0, Mushtaq Ahmed 36.2-7-95-5; Saqlain Mushtaq 22-2-62-1; Aamir Sohail 5-0-18-0.

Second Innings

*M A Taylor not out 49
M J Slater lbw b Mushtaq Ahmed 23
D C Boon c sub b Saqlain Mushtaq .. 6
M E Waugh c Rashid b Wasim 34
†I A Healy not out 4
Extras (lb 5) 5

Total (3 wkts) 121

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-42, 2-69, 3-117.

BOWLING: Wasim Akram 8-2-13-1; Waqar Younis 2-0-8-0; Mushtaq Ahmed 18-2-59-1; Saqlain Mushtaq 13-5-35-1; Aamir Sohail 1-0-1-0.

Umpires: H D Bird (England) and S G Randell (Australia).



Arsenal toil without Bergkamp's guidance

Aston Villa 1
Arsenal 1

By Keith Pike

THE talk after this match was of the two handsomely dispatched headers that settled it, and the two highly dubious refereeing decisions that scarred it. But it was the absence of the one player who might have brought a touch of refinement to a typically frantic affair that was perhaps the most significant aspect of an afternoon on which the only winners were Newcastle United.

Dennis Bergkamp sat behind Bruce Rioch, his manager, in the dugout, glumly nursing the strained calf muscle that deprived Arsenal of his services for the first time. How they missed him on Saturday, and how they will again next weekend, when Holland have first call on him in preparation for the European championship shoot-out against Ireland at Anfield.

Full results and league tables ... Page 28

Rioch admitted that in a little over three months, Arsenal have come to depend on Bergkamp. "He links the team," Rioch said. "We will always miss him because we have nobody else who can do what he does for us." Gone with Bergkamp was much of the precision and craftsmanship that had so distinguished Arsenal's recent performances against Tottenham Hotspur and Sheffield Wednesday.

For all the industry of Platt and Merson, both desperate to catch the eye of Terry Venables, the watching England coach, the area between Arsenal's midfield command centre and their front-line troops, was a no man's land. Ian Wright was reduced to a peripheral figure, Hartson reverted to raw, ungainly youth. The long-ball game may have disappeared and Arsenal's recent murky past been distanced, but when Rioch replaced a winger, Helder, with a third centre half, Morrow, once Villa had drawn level, it was another unwelcome throwback to the George Graham era.

The controversial flash points of a match that initially simmered and then came nicely to the boil could normally be dismissed, leading as they did merely to two yellow cards, but as the offenders, Townsend and Wright, have both recently returned from suspension, and as both were more sinned against than sinners, they cannot be.

Refereeing standards in the Premiership this season have generally been high, but Jeff Winter's performance here was not the stuff of which long careers are made.

Townsend's astonishment at being penalised for a foul on Winterburn when he had merely — and so obviously — tried to jump out of the way of the full back's challenge was understandable, even if the verbal dissent that followed was less forgivable.

Then, in the second minute of added time, Wright burst clear of the Villa defence, only to be caught on the heel by Southgate. Winter, a first-season official, had only to determine whether it was a professional foul — even Southgate later admitted that there had been contact — but chose instead to caution Wright for diving.

Rash, impetuous, temperamental — Wright is all of these. But a diver, when the match was there to be won? Hardly.

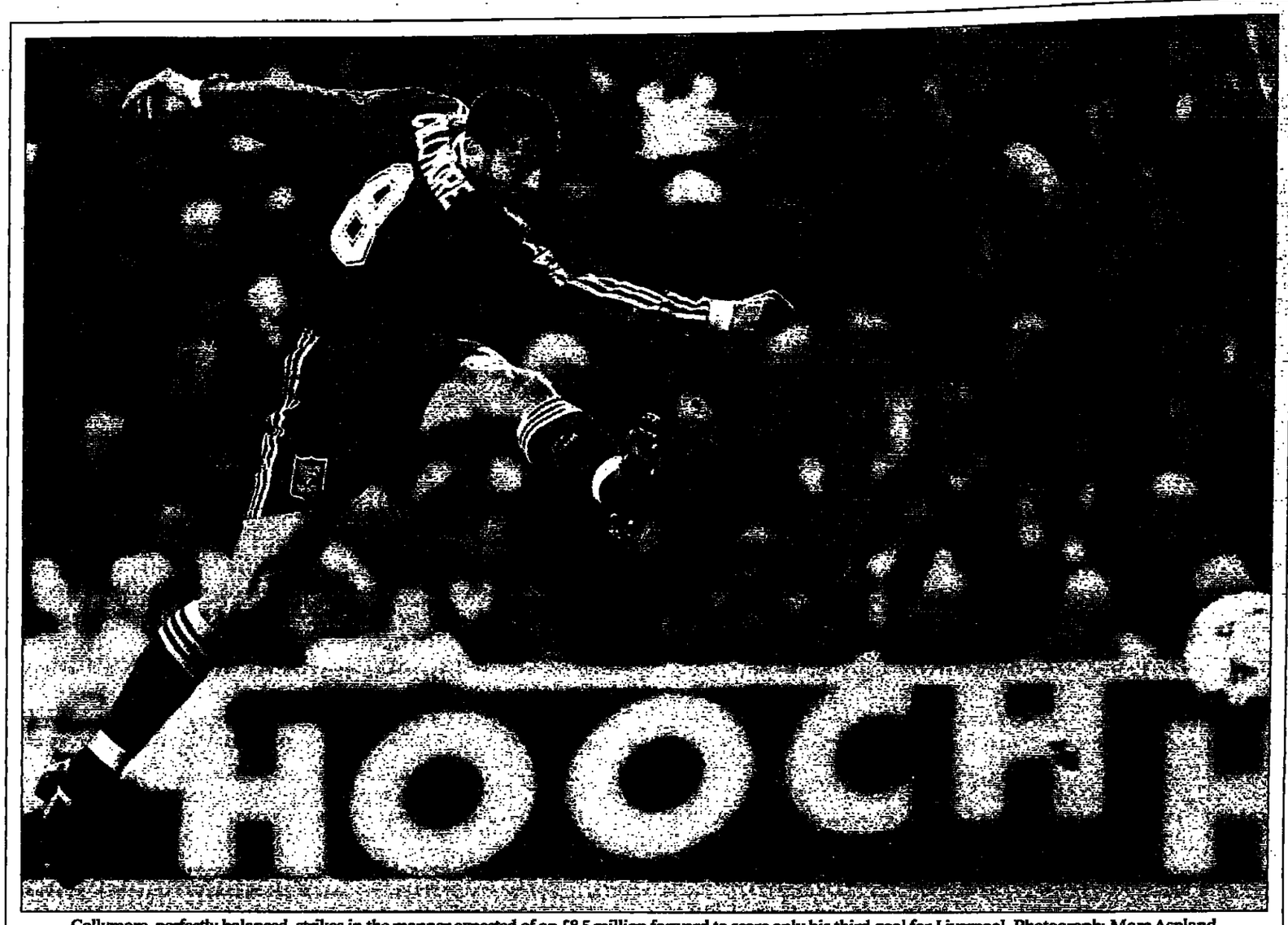
The goals were minor classics. Yorke's deliciously deft header from Alan Wright's left-wing cross contrasting splendidly with Platt's thunderous effort after he had stolen a march on McGrath to meet Merson's free kick at the near post. It was an example of Platt's still enviable penalty area nous and allowed Bergkamp to at least have a say of sorts about the proceedings.

"That is his strength," Bergkamp said of a team-mate whose place as a possible adversary in Euro '96 next summer appears in some doubt. "A goal like that just explains why he is so important to us, and his goal-scoring record for England speaks for itself. For an English player to succeed the way he did in Italy shows that he has that extra bit of class. There should not be a doubt about him playing for England." Venables please note.

ASTON VILLA (3-4-1-2): M Bosnich — U Ehiogu, P McGrath, G Southgate — G Charles, A Townsend, M Draper, A Wright — T Johnson — D Yorke, S Milosevic

ARSENAL (4-4-2): D Seaman — L Dixon, A Adams, S Bould, N Winterburn — P Merson, J Jensen, D Platt, G Helder (sub: S Morrow 68 min) — J Hartson (sub: P Dickov, 87), I Wright

Referee: J Winter



Collymore, perfectly balanced, strikes in the manner expected of an £8.5 million forward to score only his third goal for Liverpool. Photograph: Marc Aspland

Collymore underlines Anfield dilemma



Simon Barnes watches Britain's costliest player save a point for Liverpool against Southampton

Football experts have been debating the recent decline of Liverpool. The passing game is all, surely, but do Liverpool overdo it? Should the supreme stylists of the English game adopt a more direct method?

Stan Collymore knows the real problem. Him. Liverpool have not been scoring enough goals. Which is to say Collymore has not.

Last season I watched Collymore play for Nottingham Forest as they beat Sheffield Wednesday 7-1. It was a performance of majesty: striker as mechanical flail. This season, I saw Collymore's debut for Liverpool against the same opponents, and it was marked by a wonderful goal. Since then, just one more goal. And a public row with his club. And owing his place in the team on Saturday, £8.5 million man, to an injury to Rush. And to be there was to watch a man out of sorts with his team, his profession, himself.

Just what other industry, Collymore wondered out loud, would invest £8.5 million and then do nothing to cherish it, look after it, ease it into the system? Or ease the system to suit so colossal an investment? A well-made point, but not one that solved the immediate problems of unity of purpose.

Perhaps it is a problem of nomenclature. A forward has only to play forward, but to be a striker, a man has to strike. You can talk about a midfielder's work-rate and passing ability, but a striker's contribution is there for all to see. Liverpool goals this season read: Fowler 11, Rush three, Collymore two.

Nothing is more pathetic than the traditional defence of a striker who has lost that thing that makes him a striker. He is getting into good positions. He is laying-off well, drawing defenders. Yes, madam, the car is perfect, it's just that the wheels don't go round and round.

On Saturday, Collymore was a woeful sight. He is going through a reverse Midas period: everything he touches turns to ordure. Every lay-off ballooned out of reach: he dummied away from the ball and the rest just watched him.

Darting decisively into off-side positions. Moving into space for the pass that never comes. For once, he got a nice ball from Barnes, and Collymore, a beat late in responding, never got there. A shot, snatched without belief, sailing into the crowd. And all this against Southampton, supposed to be a soft touch. Naturally, they sang songs about a waste of money, and a few Liverpool voices joined the chorus.

All the money has bought Liverpool so far is someone to blame. They say you don't become a bad player overnight: but strikers manifestly do. Craft does not desert you, nor speed nor strength nor height. But faith does: and a striker must have faith.

Who do you blame, when a striker loses faith? On Saturday's evidence, everything and everybody. There are technical explanations: the ball should be played in earlier, or maybe later, to feet, or maybe to his head, from the wings, or perhaps through the middle.

You can come up with a million psychological explanations, for strikers are often difficult customers, impossibly cocky and bowed down with insecurities. But one thing is clear: a striker out of sorts is the failing of the whole team: the whole club.

So where did that goal come from? Southampton had played with enormous heart and much method, and Shipperley, a striker with a gourmand's appetite for work, had put Southampton ahead. A fourth successive home defeat for Liverpool looked the likeliest result.

And then the ball from Barnes to Collymore, Clough drawing defenders with a nicely-timed dummy run. And Collymore's finish: crisp, certain, decisive. In an instant, this shambling, care-worn figure was transformed to the cobra of old. The striker struck. In that one half-second, Collymore played like a man you would pay millions for.

Self-confidence descended like lightning from a clear sky. The ball finished in the roof of the net, so often the sign of an ultra-confident finish. He took it as if it were his twentieth, rather than his third goal of the season. A miracle, but then that is what Collymore is for.

For Liverpool, merely relief. They have still gone seven games without a win, dropped out of Europe and the Coca-Cola Cup, and this was only their second league point since October.

So far Collymore has been a failure: but perhaps the point has not been understood. Collymore's failure is everybody's failure. You don't invest a fortune in a man and then expect him to be a different kind of man. Or is that at heart the Liverpool error? And was that that one half-second a throwback to Collymore in his pomp — or was it a half-glimpse of Liverpool's glorious future?

LIVERPOOL (5-3-2): D James — M Kennedy, P Babb, J Scales, S Harkness, R Jones (sub: N Clough, 65min) — J McAteer, J Barnes, S McManaman — S Collymore, R Fowler.

SOUTHAMPTON (4-5-1): D Beasant — J Dodd, R Hall, K Monkou, F Benali — F Bennett (sub: M Oakley, 58min), B Venison, M Le Tissier, J Magilton, S Charlton — N Shipperley.

Referee: R Hart

Change of plan rescues Forest

Bolton Wanderers 1
Nottingham Forest 1

By Simon Wilde

NOTTINGHAM FOREST may be the one remaining English football team with a future in Europe this season — even if that future may come to an end tomorrow — but that does not mean they cannot fall prey to the typical English failing of industry without invention.

They did so for 80 minutes at Burnden Park on Saturday before realising the error of their ways and forcing an equaliser in the last minute of a breathless match. They will be fortunate indeed if the same thing happens in Lyons.

For most of a damp and chill afternoon Forest insistently pushed the ball up through the middle, often through the hard work of Stone and Woan, in an attempt to find their front pair of Silenzi and McGregor. More often they found Bolton's big back three waiting to pounce and Silenzi, a large and slightly ungainly Italian, was *sotto voce* indeed. Collymore he was not.

They were clearly playing to a plan and it was a plan that did not work. Frank Clark, the Forest manager, conceded as much afterwards.

That Forest did not leave Lancashire empty-handed for the second time in a month — the last time to a 7-0 scoreline in favour of Blackburn Rovers — was because they exhibited the typical English virtues of courage, character and bloody-mindedness.

It was not so much Bolton's goal midway through the second half, as the imminence of the final whistle, that seemed to bring Forest round.

In pouring men forward, they tried to break down Bolton's defence from the wings and then, having hardly had a chance worthy of the name, won a series of corners during a desperate final ten minutes.

Eventually, Woan fired over a testing cross, Pearce headed back into the goalmouth and Cooper was there by the post to put the ball away.

None of which does justice to Bolton, who played positively throughout and belied their position at the foot of the table. They came out with guns blazing and it took Forest 20 minutes to catch up. Bolton dominated the midfield, from where Curcic, the Serb, ran incisively and imaginatively.

It developed into fast-flowing stuff, much to the entertainment of the crowd — if not the managers.

"It was too open," Clark muttered, shaking his head. "I did not like it. Too much of the passing went astray."

It was Bolton's spirit of enterprise that led to their goal. Branagan charged out of his area to clear a long pass from Stone and immediately set up a move down the left flank. The ball came through to de Freitas, who carved swiftly infield past a defender and drove home at a fine angle.

The goal briefly lifted Bolton's players to even greater heights but they flagged towards the end, as though convinced their job was done. It was not.

Nor was it the first time this season they had let the opposition off the hook.

BOLTON WANDERERS (3-5-2): K Branagan — C Fairclough, G Bergsson, G Taggart — S Green, S Curcic, A Todd, A Thompson, J Philips — J McGinlay, F de Freitas

NOTTINGHAM FOREST (4-4-2): M Crossley — D Lyttle (sub: S Hoare, 79mn), C Cooper, A I Haaland, S Pearce — S Stone, S Gemmill, C Bart-Williams, I Woan — A Silenzi, P McGregor.

Referee: L Dilkes.

Shearer reiterates home truth

Blackburn Rovers 4
West Ham United 2

By Ian Rodgers

THE presence of Alan Shearer in the England team has been the subject of debate recently but Ewood Park, home of Blackburn Rovers, would be a desolate place without him.

Within three minutes of the start of this FA Carling Premiership contest on Saturday, he had placed Stuart Ripley's pass beyond Miklosko. Fourteen minutes later, he forced Mike Newell's header into the roof of the net; not an easy task given the height of the West Ham United goalkeeper.

Shearer completed his hat-trick in the second half when he converted a penalty after being impeded by Julian Dicks. As Newell, his partner up front, said: "If you build a team around him, you'll have a successful side."

Newell made the scoresheet when he lunged full length to convert another Ripley cross on the half-hour, yet it was a more recent acquisition who engineered the victory. Lars Bohinen has given Blackburn a new outlook and inspired them to score 16 goals in his four home league games for the club. His passing and movement in midfield have more than compensated for the direct approach that had spread through the champions' early-season tactics.

Some West Ham supporters had made their excuses and left after the third goal. But those that remained were stoic in their support. Conversely, the greater the deficit the more vociferous their chants became.

They deserved more and almost gained it with the introduction of Robbie Slater as a substitute. The former Blackburn midfield player encouraged a late rally that culminated in a Dicks penalty and a goal for Slater, when he curled a shot round Tim Flowers.

Unfortunately for West Ham, the Blackburn goalkeeper performed his own heroics and superbly tipped over the crossbar two Iain Dowie efforts in the space of five minutes. Ray Harford, the Blackburn manager, was concerned by the revival, which threatened to become another embarrassment for his side.

"They threw everybody forward and scared us a little," Harford said.

The Blackburn triumph was a team victory and stifled talk of in-house friction. For the moment, at least.

The European Cup Champions' League fixture with Rosenborg on Wednesday night might seem meaningless, but Harford maintained that it was a chance for players to revive flagging reputations. "It's an important game because we're at home and we have a bit of pride," he said.

BLACKBURN ROVERS (4-4-2): T Flowers — J Kenna, C Hendry (sub: P Warhurst, 50mn), H Berg, G Le Saux — S Ripley, T Sherwood, D Batty, L Bohinen — M Newell, A Shearer

WEST HAM UNITED (4-4-2): L Miklosko — T Breacker, S Potts, M Rieper, J Dicks — M Hughes, I Bishop (sub: D Hutchison, 79), D Williamson, J Harkes (sub: R Slater, 66) — A Cottee (sub: M Boogers, 70), I Dowie

Referee: K Burge.

Barker endures five minutes of misery

Queens Park Rangers 1
Middlesbrough 1

By Alyson Rudd

THERE was a twinkle in Simon Barker's eye and a chuckle in Ray Wilkins's throat as they recalled Queens Park Rangers' fourth-minute penalty. Barker aimed low but swung high, and the ball fell into a cluster of delighted Middlesbrough supporters.

It was Rangers' first spot-kick in 73 Premiership matches. "You hope it comes good on the day — obviously I fluffed my lines," said Barker, who four minutes after his miss gave away a penalty by fouling Stamp. Barmby at least forced a save from Sommer and Morris was loitering in anticipation of the loose ball to put Middlesbrough ahead. All very droll. How on earth do Rangers keep their good humour? They have taken just three points from their last eight Premiership matches.

As the points slip away they leave comments such as "defeat with honour" and "intelligent football" in their wake.

Wilkins should have been livid. McDonald equalised with a "did-it-or-didn't-it cross the line?" header, but the home team had more shots on target, more urgency and should have won. Instead of a good-natured "I thought their goal led a charmed life at times." Wilkins should have smashed a few chairs, criticised Barker, glowered menacingly and stormed home in a huff.



Wilkins: too good-natured

Rangers are too nice. Nobody fears them. They can outplay the opposition and all the while the opposition know they can still win. No wonder the gloomy faces all belonged to the Middlesbrough camp on Saturday.

Bryan Robson's team was as ever, impressive at the back but only fleetingly as well oiled further up the field. Juninho looked like a wasp with navigation trouble and it took over an hour before he produced the customary vignette, delicately cushioning a long pass from Cox, then slipping the ball through to Barmby in the penalty area.

Unfortunately, the Brazilian then faded, dropped deep and was substituted.

Juninho is still acclimatising but this did not spoil the afternoon. "I thought it was a smashing game of football to watch if you were an innocent bystander," Viv Anderson, Robson's assistant, said. Juninho is still a little innocent of the ways of the Premiership: more surprisingly, so are Rangers.

QUEENS PARK RANGERS (4-4-2): J Sommer — K Roady, A McDonald, S Yates, T Challis — T Sinclair, I Holloway, S Barker, A Impey — K Gallen (sub: D Dichio, 86min), M Hateley

MIDDLESBROUGH (5-2-2-1): G Walsh — N Cox, S Vickers, N Pearson, C Liddle, C Morris — P Stamp, J Pollock — N Barmby, Juninho (sub: C Hignett, 76) — J Moreno

Referee: P Durkin

Kinkladze's craft is alien to Leeds

Leeds United 0
Manchester City 1

By Ivo Tennant

THERE still exist those English managers who cannot rid themselves of their inate suspicion of imported foreigners. Juninho? "Could be a good player," Joe Kinnear admits grudgingly. Georgiou Kinkladze? "He caused us problems," Howard Wilkinson said, before adding the inevitable rider: "But he did not look as if he would kill us."

The follow-up comment is usually something along the lines of: "Wait until the snow comes." Around the time when Clyde Best was a newcomer in the old first division, such sentiments were also widespread. Now, they apply not to black footballers, who have long since made their mark, but to any foreign player with lofty skills.

The truth was that Kinkladze, a 22-year-old Georgian who has had to surmount the difficulties caused by his basic English, did indeed kill Leeds United. A further opinion of said managers is that Elland Road is the hardest ground for visiting players to make an impression. Not so on Saturday.

Kinkladze created space, picked out colleagues with unerring accuracy and, above all, played the game at his pace. Here was the stylish and sophisticated midfield player, appreciated by those numerous Leeds supporters who could recall Johnny Giles. "When we play Middlesbrough next week, the talents of Kinkladze and Juninho will be separated only by a cigarette paper," Alan Ball, the Manchester City manager, said. He, understandably, was pumped-up and elated. City hitherto had not won away from home this season. To gain a victory at Elland Road, and to do so by playing the ball around in a manner they could not have envisaged after Liverpool scored ten goals against them in two matches, was some achievement.

Ball gives thanks to his chairman, City's supporters and his wife, for standing by him. He is indebted to Francis Lee in another sense, too, for when Ball was abroad in the summer, an agent touting a video of the £2 million-rated Kinkladze, then playing for Dynamo Tbilisi, turned up at Maine Road. Lee watched it and recommended Ball did so on his return.

After half-time, Leeds looked to put more than one marker on Kinkladze, leaving more space for other players. The City goal was a case in point: while two defenders sought to harry Kinkladze out of possession, Lomas was left unattended on the wing and his instant, low cross was headed in by Creaney, the substitute. In five matches, City have conceded just one goal, and that a penalty. They are a young team who will continue to improve.

As for Leeds' foreigners, Yeboah saw too little of the ball and Brolin, who began his home league debut with some fine through passes, was exhausted before the end. He has been brought to Elland Road to overcome the predictability about Leeds' game that, at present, is not sufficient to counter the imagination of the likes of Kinkladze.

LEEDS UNITED (4-3-3): J Lukic — G Kelly, D Wetherall, R Jobson, A Dorigo — C Palmer, G McAllister, M Ford (sub: J Pemberton, 87mn) — T Brolin (sub: N Whelan, 70), B Deane, A Yeboah

MANCHESTER CITY (4-4-2): E Immel — I Brightwell, K Curle, K Symons, R Edghill (sub: G Creaney, 43) — N Summerbee, G Pitcroft, S Lomas, G Kinkladze — N Quinn, U Rösler.

Referee: P Alcock.

هكذا من الاصل

هكذا من الأصل

Newcastle nearly come unstuck

Bemused leaders happy to escape on level terms

Wimbledon 3
Newcastle 3

BY ANDREW LONGMORE

NEWCASTLE UNITED'S determination to win the FA Carling Premiership in style was put to the toughest of tests by the unlikeliest of challengers at Selhurst Park yesterday. Just six weeks ago, Newcastle had brushed Wimbledon aside 6-1, but, at the end of a crackling return match of six goals, they were happy to emerge breathless and bemused with a point as Wimbledon twice came from behind.

For their nearest pursuers, five points or more adrift, the brittleness of Newcastle's central defence will be a source of comfort, the sight of the fearsome Ferdinand adding two goals to his Premiership tally — now 17 in 16 games — a cause for alarm. But there could be no argument from either faction in the stands.

"Some of the defending was X-rated on both sides," Kevin Keegan, the Newcastle manager, said. "But they gambled by playing four up and that takes a lot of bravery."

Determination, tenacity, hard work — these were the qualities that Wimbledon offered up against Newcastle's superior technique. But these are starting to be desperate times for the Premiership's commoners — as a recent story about moving to Dublin would suggest — and, even without Jones, laid low with flu, their game was once again enthused with the crazed urgency of the underdog.

Wimbledon might even have taken the lead had Ekoku not driven a shot just wide as early as the seventh minute from the excellent Leonhardsen's delicately-flighted cross. The miss proved merely a prelude to a classic Newcastle break.

Beardsley robbed Harford midway in the Wimbledon half. Beresford broke to the left, Ferdinand down the middle. Beardsley chose his full back who, without changing stride, took the ball on, crossed low and Ferdinand cracked home a left foot shot for his nineteenth goal of the season. The whole operation was accomplished with awesome certainty.

Within ten minutes, Wimbledon were level: within 14, a goal to the good as first, Holdsworth turned and shot home low from 15 yards and then Hislop, enduring one of his more flamboyant afternoons, flapped at a high cross. Goodman returned the ball, Harford's volley was goalbound but brushed Ekoku's knees on the way into the net to give Wimbledon an unlikely lead.

If Peacock and Howey, at the heart of the Newcastle defence, caught Hislop's jitters on a surface not made for sharp U-turns, Wimbledon's defending did not encourage any fancy ideas about sitting on their lead either.

Howey v Holdsworth was a good contest at one end; Pearce (£650,000) v Ferdinand (£6 million) proved as one-sided as the market suggested. Every time the ball went into the air in the Wimbledon penalty area, the England man was on the end of it. Once, a bullet header was parried brilliantly by Heald, the next time Ginola's pin-point cross was tucked home with all the fuss of an old fisherman reeling in the day's catch; 2-2 and just half an hour gone.

Ten minutes before half-time, just to show Terry Venables, the England coach, that there is more to his game than scoring goals, Ferdinand turned provider. Released for a gallop down the right, he brushed off Kimble's tackle and pulled a low cross back, which Gillespie touched home under a challenge from Cunningham. Surely now the champions-in-waiting would stretch away from the stragglers?

Not a bit of it. For all Ginola's lazy dribbles down the left and Lee's persistence in midfield, Wimbledon refused to bow the knee, throwing men forward with reckless abandon and crossing fingers in defence. On the hour, Harford leapt with a passable impersonation of Ferdinand to head a Kimble cross firmly towards the roof of the net only for Hislop to make amends for his earlier fumbles with a magnificent flying save. Newcastle, though, did not learn, and ten minutes later, the same piece of choreography had Harford heading across goal for Holdsworth to put Wimbledon level from close range.

Newcastle were thrust back on their heels, unable to find any time or rhythm under the constant harassment of Leonhardsen and Goodman in midfield and Harford, who continued to cause the diminutive Newcastle full backs trouble in the air. Even Ferdinand's head was more prominent defending corners than in attack.

At the final whistle, he hung his head in disbelief. He should have smiled with relief. If this is a preview of Wimbledon's future, Dubliners should welcome them with open arms.

WIMBLEDON (4-4-2): P Heald — K Cunningham, A Pearce (sub: A Reeves 45min), C Perry, A Kimble — J Goodman, C Leonhardsen, R Earle, E Ekoku (sub: M Gayle, 45) — D Holdsworth, M Harford.
NEWCASTLE (4-4-2): S Hislop — W Barton, D Peacock, S Howey, J Beresford — K Gillespie, L Clark, R Lee, D Ginola — L Ferdinand, P Beardsley
Referee: G Ashby.

PREMIERSHIP AT A GLANCE

	Played	Points	Goal diff	Recent form
	16	35	+22	WWDWD
	16	34	+16	LWWDD
	16	29	+11	WLWDD
	16	28	+8	WDWLD
	16	27	+6	WWWDD
	16	27	+5	DDLWD
	15	26	+3	DWLDD
	16	25	+10	LLDLD
	15	24	+3	WDWLL
	16	21	+8	LLWDW
	16	16	-3	DLWDD
	16	16	0	WWWDD
	16	15	-3	LWDWL
	16	15	-10	WLLWD
Manchester City	16	15	-14	WDWWW
	15	14	-6	LDDLD
	16	13	-14	LDLDD
	16	12	-12	LDLLD
	16	9	-16	LWLLD
	15	9	-18	LLDLD

Weekly change: Up — Stayed the same — Down



Austin, left, the Tottenham defender, slides in to challenge Limpar while Fox looks on anxiously at White Hart Lane. Photograph: Dylan Martinez

Tottenham entertain midfield doubt

Tottenham Hotspur..... 0
Everton..... 0

BY NICHOLAS SZCZEPANIK

FOOTBALL, as Everton know to their cost, has recently been more involved with the law of the land than it would like; but it was good old-fashioned Sod's Law that governed much of this FA Carling Premiership encounter at White Hart Lane on Saturday.

Both teams attacked relentlessly yet could not produce a goal. Although Everton played better, Tottenham Hotspur came closer, and, while wingers dominated the game, three of the closest attempts came from a poor back pass, a free kick, and a high ball down the middle.

With Anders Limpar, of Everton, and Ruel Fox, of Tottenham, indulging in a private competition to see who could create most havoc among defenders, there was a constant flow of crosses into the penalty areas, although no takers for the goalscoring role that Gary Lineker once played for each club.

"Anders shows you flashes of genius," his manager, Joe Royle, said, and, indeed, Limpar was the player of the first half, giving Austin an uncomfortable time on the flank while still finding opportunities to cut inside and unleash right-footed shots.

Before he had got into his stride, however, Fox, provider of most of Tottenham's inspiration, had set up Rosenthal for a shot that was deflected on to the crossbar. The woodwork also rescued the home side when Amokachi almost profited from Campbell's ill-judged back pass.

After a bafflingly goalless first half, the second was disappointing. Nevertheless, Southall had to be alert to save Mabbutt's dipping volley and Everton players twice cleared from the jaws of the goal: first Hinchcliffe kicked away Sheringham's deflected shot after an indirect free kick, then, with only five minutes left, Watson misjudged a long clearance but was relieved to see Jackson prevent Armstrong's touch crossing the line.

Full results and league tables ... Page 28

Tottenham had had designs on a share of third place in the Premiership. But, as in the FA Cup semi-final last season, Everton spoilt the party if not the match. "As good a 0-0 as you'll see," was Royle's verdict.

"More like a 3-3," the Tottenham manager, Gerry Francis, agreed. "We had a chance to snatch three points whereas perhaps we only deserved one."

Francis also, by implication, acknowledged a lack of creativity in the centre of the Tottenham midfield that he hoped will be improved when Darren Anderton returns from injury. "We're showing that we are fifth best in the Premiership at the moment, and we have to hang in there until Darren comes back — he will add dimensions. It's important that, when he's back, he's back to stay."

Royle, who for his part has Duncan Ferguson's comeback to look forward to, was more positive about his side's prospects. "We're not too far short. Newcastle [United] are better than the rest, but I think we can chase them."

If the person who pointed out that Everton's next away game is at St James' Park was trying to deflate him, it did not work. "Oh, we like Newcastle," was his reply, and not many Premiership managers would say that.

TOTTENHAM HOTSPUR (4-4-2): I Walker — D Austin, C Calderwood, G Mabbutt, S Campbell — R Fox, J Dozzell, D Howells, R Rosenthal (sub: G McMahon, 76min) — C Armstrong, E Sheringham
EVERTON (4-4-2): N Southall — M Jackson, D Watson, G Short (sub: A Hinchcliffe, 45), D Unsworth — A Hanchelsks, J Ebbrell, J Parkinson, A Limpar — G Stuart, D Amokachi
Referee: S Dunn

Chelsea's caution proves successful up to a point

Manchester United 1
Chelsea 1

BY PETER BALL

THE Manchester United supporters gave Mark Hughes a standing ovation on Saturday and their team gave him a point, Chelsea extending their outstanding record at Old Trafford to only two defeats in the past 21 visits. Given that record, United might regard the draw as a point won, yet there were other things to worry them as Cole's search for goals again proved fruitless and Cantona's new halo slipped a little.

In April, Chelsea held United to a scoreless, and virtually chanceless, draw that, as much as anything, prevented United retaining the FA Carling Premiership title. On Saturday, they again set out unashamedly to kill the game and afterwards congratulated themselves on their success.

"We set out to get a lot of players into midfield to make it frustrating for them, and we did," Hughes, the captain for the day on an emotional return to his former club, said.

They succeeded up to a point. The first half may go down as the worst at Old Trafford for many a long year. When Lee Sharpe, who had a game he will want to forget, compounded his miserable afternoon by sending Spencer free for Wise to put Chelsea ahead, early in the second half, the jinx seemed to be working again.

But, thereafter, there was only one team likely to emerge victorious. When a team does not leave one forward upfield at corners and still allows the opposition free headers in the penalty box, as did Chelsea, it is hard to acknowledge their defensive tactics as a success.

Despite Chelsea's six-man midfield, playing in two banks to deny United space, Beckham and Cantona produced some breathtaking moments, and Cantona one two-footed lunge that brought his first yellow card since his return. United had enough chances to end any talk of a hoodoo for evermore, Cole, Beckham and Bruce all missing openings either side of Beckham's glorious chip that brought the equaliser.

Bruce saw one effort scrambled off the line by Wise and, culpably, as he admitted, put a free header wide. Beckham shot at Kharine when clear, but inevitably it was Cole's misses that concentrated the mind.

He is unarguably a much more complete player than a year ago, but that was not the aim when he was bought for around £7 million. He has scored only three goals all season. "Only two more than Schmeichel [the United goalkeeper], and from a lot more opportunities," one observer said.

The miss from five yards caught the eye, but a more worrying moment came shortly afterwards when a more difficult opening presented itself. Cole, a year ago, would have hit it without thinking; on Saturday he appeared to freeze, waiting uncertainly as Chelsea regrouped before hitting it straight at Myers.

"The only way back for Andy is to go out to try to score," Hughes said. "He is going to have times when he thinks he'll never score again, but he's got to keep taking the positions that he has done throughout his career, and then the hits will come his way.

"He's an out-and-out striker, and for Andy the only food and drink is when he hits the back of the net. When he's not doing that, maybe he gets tense about the other parts of his game and tries too hard, and that's when he has a problem. But he will come through it."

Hughes should know, but doubts linger. Cole was substituted and, as the forlorn figure walked off, the ghosts of Alan Brazil and Garry Birtles could be seen hovering above the penalty area.

MANCHESTER UNITED (4-4-2): K Pilkington — G Neville, S Bruce, D May, D Irwin — P Scholes, B McClair, D Beckham, L Sharpe — E Cantona, A Cole (sub: T Cooke, 74min).
CHELSEA (3-4-3-1): D Kharine — M Duberry, D Lee, A Myers — D Petrescu, E Newton, G Hall — C Burley, J Spencer (sub: P Furlong, 82), D Wise — M Hughes
Referee: M Bodenham.

RUI VIEIRA



Cantona's momentum carries him into the crowd at Old Trafford

Lee's return gives Forest Uefa Cup lift

NOTTINGHAM Forest were given an unexpected lift today when Jason Lee, their young forward, was declared fit to compete for a place in the team to face Lyons, of France, in the Uefa Cup tomorrow.

Lee was expected to travel with the squad today, after proving that he had shaken off the affects of a thigh strain.

Forest, flying the lone British flag in European competition this season, have to defend a 1-0 advantage in the second leg of the third-round tie, a lead secured at the City Ground two weeks ago with a goal by Paul McGregor, one of the young players drafted in to the side in Lee's absence.

Frank Clark, the Forest manager, had his hand strengthened further by the return of Steve Chettle, the defender, after serving a one-match suspension.

Darlington, of the Endsleigh Insurance League third division, were expected to confirm the appointment of Jim Platt as manager today, after the surprise walk-out by his joint manager, David Hodgson, before the FA Cup second-round match with Rochdale on Saturday, which ended 2-2.

Hodgson said he was unhappy with the reluctance of the board to allow any of the £250,000 realised from the sale of players to be spent on rebuilding the squad. "I am sick of the politics at this club," he said.

Cammy Duncan, the Ayr goalkeeper, was recovering at home yesterday after the intervention of the club physiotherapist, John Kerr, prevented him swallowing his tongue when he sustained concussion in a clash with David Kennedy, of Queen of the South, in a Bell's League first division match on Saturday.

Thom helps Celtic revive memories of former glory

KEVIN McCARRA
Scottish commentary

There were tough negotiations before Andreas Thom joined Celtic in August. The club's manager, Tommy Burns, still recalls how he was grilled about the kind of schooling his daughter, Janine, might receive and the sort of home into which he and his wife, Kristina, would be taking their baby boy, Sascha-Rene.

Of course, the German international did eventually remember to negotiate a contract worth, according to Celtic's managing director, Fergus McCann, £1.8 million over three years. For Burns, though, the impression that lingered was of a devoted family man. It is an ambiguous reputation for a footballer, and especially a forward, to have.

Attackers are more often associated with disorder, and the best of them ensure that the havoc of their life spills over into the opposition's goalmouth. Thom, a product of the old, methodical East German sporting system, is more placid but, given his irregular scoring, supporters were left trying to stifle the thought that his skills might be an ornament to the team rather than its mainspring.

Now, however, he has begun to claim a place at the very heart of Scottish football's mayhem. On Saturday, Celtic were 2-0 down to Kilmarnock at home, with two minutes of the first half remaining, when Thom burst through on the right and crossed for Peter Grant to head home. Before the interval arrived, the German had claimed the equaliser for himself, taking his time to stroke a shot into the corner of the net even as the crowd were bawling at him to hurry.

In the second half, Pierre van Hooijdonk put Celtic ahead with scarcely any assistance from Thom, but he was not to be excluded from the action for long and was instrumental in the fourth goal, again finished by the Dutchman.

The 4-2 victory had overwhelmingly been of the German's devising. Celtic paid £2.2 million to Bayer Leverkusen for Thom precisely to secure the kind of talent that can have a game at its beck and call.

He was purchased by a club made frantic by frustration after David Ginola and Marc Degryse had both preferred moves to, respectively, Newcastle United and Sheffield Wednesday. Burns, at that point, had never even seen Thom in the flesh but, harried by their own indignant supporters, Celtic could no longer spare the time for qualms.



Thom: guiding influence

A deal was rushed through with Leverkusen even though Burns was aware that the player's form had stubbornly failed to climb above mediocrity in the two previous seasons, which had produced a total of nine goals for him in the Bundesliga. The risk was taken on the basis of the attributes that are always evident in Thom even when he is ineffective.

Hard-bitten professional footballers are not given to swooning over the skills of colleagues but, at Celtic Park, Thom's team-mates cannot help but chatter about the German's two-footed precision, his turn of pace and the intelligent tirelessness that makes him elusive for defenders and readily available to his own midfield.

Thom still has just three goals in the Bell's Scottish League premier division, but his growing influence has increased every index of the side's worth. A year ago, Celtic had 21 points from 16 matches, now they possess 35. Then they had scored only 17 goals, now they have 30.

Celtic's top scorer for the whole of last season was John Collins, with eight. At the moment, he and Van Hooijdonk have nine each. The players, nevertheless, have more than just their former selves to beat, and Rangers, efficient 2-0 winners away to Heart of Midlothian on Saturday, still enjoy a four-point lead.

Even so, Celtic are entitled to feel satisfied with themselves. After all, this was, only recently, a tormented team that drew half of its league matches last season. That record was an accurate account of a side whose standards were as nondescript as the humbler members of the premier division.

Supporters, though, now find that attendance on Saturday is once more a pleasure rather than an obligation, and, for the moment, Celtic can believe they are pursuing Rangers rather than merely trailing behind them.

FA CARLING PREMIERSHIP

ASTON VILLA (0) 1 ARSENAL (0) 1
Yorke 65 — Platt 60
37,770

Aston Villa: M Bosnich, U Ehiogu, P McGrath, G Southgate, G Charles, A Townsend, M Draper, A Wright, T Johnson, D Yorke, S Milosevic.
Booked: Townsend.
Arsenal: D Seaman, L Dixon, A Adams, S Bould, N Winterburn, P Merson, J Jensen, D Platt, G Helder (sub: S Morrow 68min), J Hartson (sub: P Dickov, 87), I Wright.
Booked: Bould, Wright, Jensen
Referee: J Winter

BLACKBURN (3) 4 WEST HAM (0) 2
Shearer 3, 17, 64 (pen) — Dicks 74 (pen)
Newell 32 — Slater 86
26,638

Blackburn Rovers: T Flowers, J Kenna, C Hendry (sub: P Warhurst, 50min), H Berg, G Le Saux, S Ripley, T Sherwood, D Batty, L Bohmen, M Newell, A Shearer.
Booked: Berg
West Ham United: L Miklosko, T Breacker, S Potts, M Rieper, J Dicks, M Hughes, I Bishop (sub: D Hutchison, 79), D Williamson, J Harkes (sub: R Slater, 66), A Cottee (sub: M Boogers, 70), I Ooma
Referee: K Burge.

BOLTON (0) 1 NOTTM FOREST (0) 1
De Freitas 67 — Cooper 90
17,342

Bolton Wanderers: K Branagan, C Fairclough, G Bergsson, G Taggart, S Green, S Curcic, A Todd, A Thompson, J Phillips, J McGinlay, F de Freitas.
Booked: Thompson
Nottingham Forest: M Crossley, D Lyttle (sub: S Hoare, 79min), C Cooper, A Hasland, S Pearce, S Stone, S Gemmill, C Bart-Williams, I Woan, A Silenzi, P McGregor.
Booked: Woan, Hasland.
Referee: L Dilkes.

LEEDS (0) 0 MANCHESTER C (0) 1
33,249 — Creaney 60

Leeds United: J Lukic, G Kelly, D Wetherall, R Johnson, A Dorigo, C Palmer, G McAllister, M Ford (sub: J Pemberton, 87min), T Brolin (sub: N Whelan, 70), B Deane, A Yeboah.
Booked: Johnson, Deane, Ford

Manchester City: E Immel, I Brightwell, K Curle, K Symons, R Edghill (subs: G Creaney, 43), N Summerbee, G Fitzroll, S Lomas, G Kinkladze, N Dunn, U Rosler
Booked: Curle, Lomas, Fitzroll
Referee: P Alcock.

LIVERPOOL (0) 1 SOUTHAMPTON (0) 1
Collymore 67 — Shipperley 90
38,907

Liverpool: D James, M Kennedy, P Babb, J Scales, S Harkness, R Jones (subs: N Clough, 65min), J McAteer, J Barnes, S McManaman, S Collymore, R Fowler.
Booked: McManaman.
Southampton: D Beasant, J Dodd, R Hall, K Monkou, F Benali, F Bennett (subs: M Oakley, 56min), B Venison, M Le Tissier, J Magilton, S Charlton, N Shipperley.
Booked: Dodd, Monkou, Charlton.
Referee: R Hart

MANCHESTER U (0) 1 CHELSEA (0) 1
Beckham 81 — Wise 53
42,019

Manchester United: K Pilkington, G Neville, S Bruce, D May, D Irwin, P Scholes, B McClair, D Beckham, L Sharpe, E Cantona, A Cole (sub: T Cooke, 74min).
Booked: Cantona, Neville.
Chelsea: D Kharine, M Doherty, D Lee, A Myers, D Petrescu, E Newton, G Hall, C Burley, J Spencer (sub: P Furlong, 82), D Wise, M Hughes.
Booked: Newton, Lee, Hall
Referee: M Bodenham.

QPR (1) 1 MIDDLESBROUGH (1) 1
McDonald 16 — Morris 7
17,545

Queens Park Rangers: J Seaman, K Ready, A McDonald, S Yates, T Challis, T Sinclair, I Holloway, S Barker, A Impey, K Gallen (sub: D Dichio, 86min), M Hateley
Booked: Ready, Holloway
Middlesbrough: G Walsh, N Cox, S Vickers, M Pearson, C Liddle, C Morris, P Stamp, J Pollock, N Barmby, Juninho (sub: C Hignett, 76), J Morano
Booked: Morris.
Referee: P Durkin

TOTTENHAM (0) 0 EVERTON (0) 0
33,894

Tottenham Hotspur: I Walker, D Austin, C Calderwood, G Mabbutt, S Campbell, R Fox, J Dozzell, D Howells, R Rosenthal (sub: G McMahon, 76min), C Armstrong, E Sheringham.
Booked: Calderwood, Mabbutt.
Everton: N Southall, M Jackson, D Watson, C Short (sub: A Hinchcliffe, 45), D Unsworth, A Kanchelskis, J Ebbrell, J Parkinson, A Limpar, G Stuart, D Amokachi
Booked: Stuart, Amokachi, Ebbrell
Referee: S Dunn.

Yesterday

WIMBLEDON (2) 3 NEWCASTLE (3) 3
Holdsworth 18, 65 — Ferdinand 9, 29
Ekoku 21 — Cunningham 35 (og)
18,005

Wimbledon: P Heald, K Cunningham, A Kimble, O Leonhardsen, R Earle, E Ekoku (sub: M Sayle, 46min), D Holdsworth, M Harford. C Perry, A Pearce (sub: A Reeves, 46), J Goodman
Booked: Leonhardsen.
Newcastle United: S Hislop, W Barton, J Beresford, D Peacock, S Howey, R Lee, P Beardsley, L Ferdinand, L Clark, D Elnots, K Gillespie.
Booked: Howey, Clark.
Referee: G Ashby

TODAY

Sheffield Wednesday v Coventry City

John Salako is due to return as Coventry, who are bottom, take on fellow strugglers Sheffield Wednesday.

Coventry, who have not won a league match since August, will also have the services of Richard Shaw, the £1 million signing who has now recovered from a thigh strain. Brian Borrows remains unavailable with a hamstring strain.

Steve Nicol makes his home debut for Wednesday, who have won only once in seven home games. Manager David Pleat hopes to have striker, David Hirst, midfield player, Mark Pembridge, and defender, Lee Briscoe, back after injury.



Holdsworth: scored twice

GOALSCORERS

	Lge	Cup	Euro	Total
Shearer (Blackburn)	16	5	0	21
Ferdinand (Newcastle)	17	3	0	20
Fowler (Liverpool)	11	2	0	13
Sheringham (Tottenham)	10	3	0	13
Yeboah (Leeds)	9	1	3	13
Wright (Arsenal)	7	5	0	12
Holdsworth (Wimbledon)	6	4	0	10
Scholes (Man Utd)	7	2	1	10
Bergkamp (Arsenal)	6	3	0	9
Yorke (Aston Villa)	6	3	0	9

TITLE CHASERS

LAST week's analysis of the FA Carling Premiership relegation zone has prompted me to examine the top of the table and pose a similar question: has the championship race already been decided? Three of the past four seasons have been resolved in this fashion with the team in pole position at this stage of the campaign going on to win.

The exception was in 1992-93, when Manchester United emerged from the pack and went on to clinch the title; at this stage, they were stuttering in eighth place, nine points adrift of Norwich City, the leaders. That thought should provide hope for the present chasing pack of United, Arsenal and Aston Villa. Realistically, though, with a five-point lead and just one defeat for the season so far, it will require a slide rather than a slip for the pack to catch this season's pacesetters, Newcastle United.

This season:	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pt	GD
1 Newcastle U	16	12	3	1	36	14	39	+22
2 Manchester U	16	10	4	2	33	15	34	+18
3 Arsenal	16	8	5	3	22	11	29	+11
4 Aston Villa	16	8	4	4	20	12	28	+8
1994-95								
1 Blackburn R	16	11	3	2	35	13	36	+22
2 Manchester U	16	11	2	3	31	10	35	+21
3 Newcastle U	16	10	4	2	34	17	34	+17
1993-94								
1 Manchester U	16	13	2	1	33	13	41	+20
2 Blackburn R	16	8	5	3	21	14	29	+7
3 Aston Villa	16	8	5	3	18	13	29	+5
1992-93								
1 Norwich	16	10	3	3	29	26	33	+1
2 Arsenal	16	9	2	5	22	16	29	+6
3 Blackburn R	16	7	7	2	25	12	28	+13
8 Manchester U	*16*	*8*	*5*	*4*	*17*	*12*	*24*	*+5*
1991-92								
1 Leeds U	16	9	6	1	27	12	33	+15
2 Manchester U	15	9	5	1	23	7	32	+16
3 Manchester C	16	9	2	5	22	17	29	+5



Hagi, right, the Barcelona striker, tussles for possession with Mutiu, of Racing, in the meeting between their respective clubs. The match ended in a 1-1 draw

EUROPEAN

DUTCH LEAGUE: De Graafschap Doetinchem 3 Utrecht 0; RKC Waalwijk 1 Go Ahead Eagles Deventer 1 Volendam 1
Heerenveen 1 Twente Enschede 1 Vitesse Arnhem 0; Groningen 0 NEC Nijmegen 0; PSV Eindhoven 1 Sparta Rotterdam 2

FRENCH LEAGUE: Nantes 3 Martigues 0; Bastia 4 Lille 0; Saint Etienne 2 Bordeaux 0; Guingamp 0 Paris Saint-Germain 0; Monaco 1 Nice 0; Cannes 3 Rennes 0; Montpellier 2 Lyons 1; Lens 2 Metz 0; Le Havre 2 Strasbourg 0

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pt
Paris SG	20	12	6	2	38	16	42
Lens	20	9	9	2	24	13	36
Auxerre	20	11	2	7	37	21	35
Metz	20	9	7	4	18	13	34
Nantes	20	9	9	3	24	17	33
Guingamp	20	8	9	3	18	12	33
Strasbourg	20	8	7	5	28	18	31
Montpellier	20	8	6	6	28	25	30
Bastia	20	9	3	8	30	28	30
Monaco	20	8	5	7	29	26	29
Rennes	20	8	5	7	24	25	29
Le Havre	20	7	5	8	17	25	26
Nice	20	7	4	9	23	24	25
Bordeaux	20	6	4	10	21	27	22
St Ebenne	20	5	7	8	25	33	22
Lyon	20	4	9	7	18	22	21
Cannes	20	4	4	12	22	35	16
Lille	20	3	7	10	14	28	16
Guaugnon	20	2	9	9	13	25	15
Martigues	20	4	3	13	14	30	15

GERMAN LEAGUE: Bayern Munich 4 Schalke 04 0; Eintracht Frankfurt 3 Fortuna Dusseldorf 0; VfB Stuttgart 3 Hamburg 0. Sankt Pauli 1 SC Karlsruhe 1; Borussia Monchengladbach 2 Uerdingen 1, Hansa Rostock 3 Kaiserslautern 0.

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pt
B Dortmund	*16*	*11*	*4*	*1*	*43*	*20*	*37*
Bayern Munich	16	11	2	3	34	18	35
B Monchgldbch	16	9	1	6	28	27	28
Hansa Rostock	16	6	7	3	28	19	25
B Leverkusen	16	6	7	3	22	14	25
VfB Stuttgart	16	6	7	3	36	30	25
Hamburg SV	16	5	8	3	24	22	23
Schalke	16	5	7	4	19	22	22
E Frankfurt	16	5	5	6	28	28	20
Karlsruhe SC	16	4	6	6	22	27	18
FC St Pauli	16	4	5	7	22	27	17
Werder Bremen	16	3	8	5	16	21	17
SC Freiburg	16	4	4	8	12	22	16
1860 Munich	16	3	6	7	18	26	15
KFC Uerdingen	16	2	8	6	13	17	14
Kaiserslautn	16	2	8	6	17	24	14
Cologne	16	2	8	6	15	22	14
F Duesseldorf	16	2	7	7	16	27	13

ITALIAN LEAGUE: Atalanta 3 Vicenze 1; Bari 1 Sampdoria 3; Inter Milan 2 Cremonese 0; Lazio 0 AC Milan 1; Napoli 1 Parma 1. Padova 0 Fiorentina 1; Piacenza 1 Cagliari 1; Udinese 1 AS Roma 1. Leading positions (after 12 matches) 1. AC Milan, 27, 2. Parma, 23, 3, Fiorentina, 22; 4, Atalanta, 22; 5, Lazio, 19; 6, Inter Milan, 18

SPANISH LEAGUE: Real Madrid 4, Sevilla 1; Barcelona 1, Racing de Santander 1, Rayo Vallecano 1, Espanol 0

FA CUP

SECOND ROUND

BARROW (0) 0 WIGAN (0) 4
3,500 — Diaz 57, Martinez 70, Black 61, 71

BLACKPOOL (0) 2 COLWYN BAY (0) 0
Preece 52, Quinn 64 — 4,581

BOURNEMOUTH (0) 0 BRENTFORD (1) 1
4,451 — Taylor 12
Sent off: B Ashby (Brentford) 30

BRADFORD (1) 2 PRESTON (0) 1
Jacobs 38, 61 — Williamson 77
7,602

CINDERFORD (0) 1 GRAVESEND & N (0) 1
Thomas 80 — Bleeden 54
2,067

CREWE (1) 2 MANSFIELD (0) 0
Edwards 39, Rivers 67 — 3,694

ENFIELD (1) 1 WOKING (0) 1
Gentle 45 — Walker 80
3,477
Sent off: J Carstairs (Enfield) 90

FULHAM (0) 0 BRIGHTON (0) 0
6,052

GILLINGHAM (0) 3 HITCHIN (0) 0
Fortune-West 53, 84, Ratcliffe 75 — 7,142

HEREFORD (1) 2 SUTTON UNITED (0) 0
White 26, 82 — 2,908
Sent off: N Galley (Sutton United) 55

OXFORD UTD (1) 2 NORTHAMPTON (0) 0
Massey 8, Moody 84 — 6,348

PETERBOROUGH (3) 4 BOGNOR (0) 0
Farrell 25, 44, 45, Elston 62 — 5,004

ROCHDALE (0) 2 DARLINGTON (1) 2
Deary 66, 85 — Shaw 41, Olsson 71
3,732

SCUNTHORPE (0) 1 SHREWSBURY (0) 1
Eyre 67 — Scott 50
2,718

STOCKPORT (2) 2 BLYTH SPARTANS (0) 0
Eckhardt 3, Raffell 38 (og) — 5 693

SWINDON (0) 2 CARDIFF (0) 0
Allison 58, Finney 83 — 8,274

TELFORD (0) 0 NOTTS CO (1) 2
2,851 — Gallagher 20, Legg 51

TORQUAY (1) 1 WALSALL (0) 1
Hathaway 2 — Lightbourne 50
3,552

WREXHAM (2) 3 CHESTERFIELD (0) 2
Watkin 7 Hunter 31, Connolly 82 (pen) — Davies 56, 90
4 943

Yesterday

KINGSTONIAN (1) 1 PLYMOUTH (1) 2
Warden 45 — Leadbitter 8, Littlejohn 85
2,961

REPLAYS: December 12: Brighton v Fulham (7.45), Darlington v Rochdale (7.30), Gravesend and Northfleet v Cinderford (7.45), Shrewsbury v Scunthorpe (7.30); Walsall v Torquay (7.45), Woking v Enfield (at Wycombe, 7.30)

Endsleigh Insurance League

FIRST DIVISION

DERBY CO (1) 4 SHEFFIELD UTD (1) 2
Stimulge 29, Williams 65 (pen), 66, Gabbiadini 74 — Blake 37, Veart 50
13,841

GRIMSBY (0) 1 CHARLTON (1) 2
Groves 72 — Gyant 44, Whyte 51 (pen)
6,887

LEICESTER (1) 2 BARNSLEY (2) 2
Roberts 14, Grayson 89 — Payton 21, 40
15,125

LUTON (1) 3 TRANMERE (1) 2
Marshall 6, 60, McLaren 71 — Bennett 2, Jones 52
6,025

MILLWALL (1) 1 WATFORD (2) 2
Mellon 45 — Phillips 24, 39
4,389

NORWICH (0) 0 STOKE (0) 1
15,707 — Gleghorn 53

PORT VALE (1) 1 HUDDERSFIELD (0) 0
Foyle 6 — 7,701

PORTSMOUTH (1) 2 OLDHAM (1) 1
Allen 19, McLoughlin 77 (pen) — Beckford 20
6,002

READING (2) 3 WEST BROMWICH (1) 1
Morley 6, Holsgrove 41, Nogan 71 — Ashcroft 8
7,910

SOUTHEND (2) 3 BIRMINGHAM (1) 1
Bodley 44, Regis 45, Eyre 71 — Claridge 29
7,770

SUNDERLAND (1) 1 C PALACE (0) 0
Scott 39 (pen) — 12,777

WOLVES (0) 2 IPSWICH (1) 2
Goodman 60, 70 — Marshall 30, Mowbray 90
20,867

SECOND DIVISION

BURNLEY (1) 2 CARLISLE (0) 0
Nogan 38, 57 — 8,297
Sent off: D Reeves (Carlisle) 55

SWANSEA (0) 0 ROTHERHAM (0) 0
1 788

THIRD DIVISION

DONCASTER (1) 2 EXETER (0) 0
Brabin 45, Jones 74 — 1,429

BELL'S LEAGUE CHAMPIONSHIP

PREMIER DIVISION

CELTIC (2) 4 KILMARNOCK (2) 2
Grant 42, Thom 43, Van Hooijdonk 60, 64 — Mitchell 11, Brown 23
33,812

FALKIRK (0) 2 RAITH (0) 1
McGriffen 52, 59 — Graham 57
4,404

HEARTS (0) 0 RANGERS (0) 2
15,105 — McCoist 84 (pen), Gascoigne 87

MOTHERWELL (0) 0 HIBERNIAN (0) 2
5,362 — Wright 51, 78

PARTICK (0) 1 ABERDEEN (0) 0
Smith 63 — 4,100
Sent off: S McKimmie (Aberdeen) 9

FIRST DIVISION

AIRDRIE (0) 1 ST JOHNSTONE (0) 1
McIntyre 74 — Scott 54
1,660

DUNDEE UTD (3) 8 DUMBARTON (0) 0
Brewster 8, 15, 51, 56, Johnson 39, Melvin 67 (og), Coyle 79, McSwegan 90 — 5,365

DUNFERMLINE (3) 4 HAMILTON (0) 0
Shaw 3, Fleming 13, Petrie 25, Tod 88 — 3,284

G MORTON (0) 3 CLYDEBANK (0) 0
Lilley 46, Rajamaki 73, 77 — 3,002

ST MIRREN (0) 1 DUNDEE (2) 2
Lavety 69 — Shaw 2, Tosh 18
2,364

SECOND DIVISION

AYR (1) 2 QUEEN OF SOUTH (0) 0
Smith 35, Steele 77 — 1,434

EAST FIFE (1) 1 BERWICK (0) 0
Donaghy 45 — 992

MONTROSE (0) 1 STENHOUSEMUIR (3) 4
McGlashan 64 — Little 6, Matthieson 17, 58, Hutchison 27
504

STIRLING (2) 4 FORFAR (0) 1
McInnes 26, McCormick 32, 77, McQuilter 59 — Bowres 86
734

STRANRAER (0) 0 CLYDE (0) 0
812

THIRD DIVISION

ALBION (0) 1 BRECHIN (0) 0
Willock 73 — 289

ALLOA (0) 0 QUEEN'S PARK (0) 0
302

ARBROATH (1) 2 COWDENBEATH (0) 1
Trahair 33, Walters 90 — Humphreys 75
438

CALEY THIS (1) 1 EAST STIRLING (0) 1
Ross 40 — Lamont 69
1,142

LIVINGSTON (0) 0 ROSS COUNTY (0) 0
3,444

CONFERENCE

ALTRINCHAM (0) 2 RUNCORN (2) 2
Terry 71 (pen), 88 (pen) — Bignall 2, Doherty 30
707

DAG AND RED (0) 1 WELLING (0) 1
Bennett 65 — Marsh 70
805

DOVER (0) 2 KETTERING (0) 1
Sweetzer 69, 79 — Allard 57
1,045

GATESHEAD (0) 0 HEDNESFORD (3) 3
841 — O'Connor 15, 27, Foreman 45

HALIFAX (1) 1 BROMSGROVE (0) 1
Worthington 13 — Skelding 56 (pen)
843

KIDDERMINSTER (1) 1 BATH (0) 2
Casey 45 — Sugar 47, Chiverton 50
1,833

MORECAMBE (3) 4 SOUTHPORT (1) 3
Monk 3, 8, McCluskie 15, Coleman 73 — Fuller 5, Davenport 62, Gamble 69 (pen)
1,745

NORTHWICH (0) 1 FARNBOROUGH (2) 3
Clayton 81 — Denny 37, Boorne 39, 39, Underwood 60
687
Sent off: R Denny (Farnborough) 63

STALYBRIDGE (0) 0 SLOUGH (0) 1
558 — Hercules 52

STEVENAGE (1) 4 MACCLESFIELD (0) 0
Berry 9, Lynch 65, Sodje 76, Hayles 78 — 2,021

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pt
1 Macclesfield	22	8	1	2	18	10	45
2 Woking	18	8	1	0	19	3	37
3 Hednesford	18	8	0	3	15	9	35
4 Kidderminster	20	7	2	3	22	15	34
5 Stevenage	16	5	1	1	25	8	33
6 Gateshead	20	5	3	3	13	11	32
7 Kettering	21	6	2	2	19	8	29
8 Morecambe	18	6	0	2	15	15	29
9 Bromsgrove	20	6	1	2	20	11	28
10 Halifax	21	7	2	3	18	11	27
11 Southport	19	4	2	3	17	11	26
12 Slough	21	2	4	5	20	28	25
13 Farnborough	16	4	3	1	14	5	24
14 Northwich	16	4	0	4	15	15	24
15 Stalybridge	21	4	1	6	14	26	24
16 Altrincham	19	3	4	3	17	17	22
17 Welling	20	3	3	4	14	13	21
18 Bath	21	3	1	5	8	14	20
19 Runcorn	20	4	2	3	13	12	20
20 Telford	16	3	3	3	12	11	18
21 Dover	20	3	0	3	12	12	18
22 Dag & Red	19	2	4	4	13	20	16

	HOME						AWAY						
	P	W	D	L	F	A	W	D	L	F	A	Pt	Gls
1 Millwall	20	4	3	3	11	10	5	4	1	13	9	34	24
2 Sunderland	19	5	3	1	13	7	4	4	2	9	8	34	22
3 Leicester	20	3	3	4	15	16	6	3	1	18	12	33	33
4 Norwich	20	5	3	2	11	7	4	3	3	19	14	33	30
5 Grimsby	20	5	4	1	12	7	4	2	4	12	14	33	24
6 Birmingham	20	4	5	1	17	12	4	2	4	14	13	31	31
7 Stoke	20	4	4	2	12	6	4	3	3	18	18	31	30
8 Derby Co	20	5	4	1	16	8	3	3	4	14	18	31	30
9 Tranmere	18	5	3	2	20	11	3	3	2	11	8	30	31
10 Charlton	20	4	5	1	15	11	3	4	3	10	9	30	25
11 Huddersfld	20	7	1	2	20	12	1	4	5	6	14	29	28
12 Barnsley	20	5	4	1	13	12	2	3	5	13	20	28	26
13 Southend	20	5	3	2	13	10	2	3	5	9	15	27	22
14 Oldham	20	4	4	2	17	12	2	4	4	11	12	26	28
15 Ipswich	20	5	2	3	20	16	1	5	4	14	16	25	34
16 West Brom	20	5	1	4	13	12	2	2	6	11	18	24	24
17 Reading	20	4	2	4	18	16	1	6	3	8	10	23	24
18 C Palace	19	2	4	3	10	12	3	3	4	10	12	22	20
19 Watford	20	2	5	3	12	12	2	3	5	12	17	20	24
20 Portsmouth	20	3	4	3	16	15	1	3	6	12	20	19	28
21 Wolves	20	3	4	3	13	13	1	3	6	11	17	19	24
22 Sheff Utd	20	3	2	5	14	16	2	1	7	13	21	16	27
23 Luton	20	2	3	5	11	15	2	3	5	4	12	18	15
24 Port Vale	20	1	3	6	9	16	2	5	3	12	12	17	21

SECOND DIVISION

	HOME						AWAY						Goal
	P	W	D	L	F	A	W	D	L	F	A	Pt	diff
1 Swindon	18	5	3	1	15	6	6	2	1	18	8	38	33
2 Notts Co	18	6	1	2	18	9	4	4	1	12	7	35	30
3 Crewe	17	7	1	0	19	6	3	3	3	15	12	34	34
4 Burnley	19	6	3	1	20	10	2	3	4	9	13	30	29
5 Chesterfld	18	7	1	1	19	6	2	2	5	8	13	30	27
6 Wycombe	18	3	5	1	11	9	4	3	2	16	11	29	27
7 Blackpool	18	5	2	2	13	8	3	3	3	12	11	29	25
8 Wrexham	18	5	3	1	21	11	2	4	3	9	11	28	30
9 Shrewsbury	18	5	0	4	15	10	3	2	4	11	15	26	26
10 Stockport	18	2	6	1	10	7	4	2	3	12	9	26	22
11 Bradford	18	5	2	2	15	12	2	2	5	10	16	25	25
12 Oxford Utd	18	6	1	2	15	8	0	6	3	7	11	25	22
13 Bournemth	18	5	2	2	12	9	2	2	5	7	13	25	19
14 Peterboro	18	4	3	2	16	9	1	4	4	9	19	22	25
15 Bristol R	18	2	2	5	9	17	4	2	3	10	12	22	19
16 York	18	3	3	3	12	11	3	0	6	11	18	21	23
17 Rotherham	19	5	3	1	17	10	0	3	7	6	22	21	23
18 Walsall	18	2	5	2	12	11	3	1	5	8	6	21	20
19 Bristol C	17	3	4	2	9	6	2	2	4	8	16	21	17
20 Swansea	19	3	5	2	12	9	1	3	5	7	17	20	19
21 Carlisle	19	4	3	2	13	8	0	3	7	8	22	18	21
22 Brentford	18	5	0	4	10	9	0	3	6	4	15	18	14
23 Brighton	18	2	2	5	8	14	1	1	7	6	18	12	14
24 Hull	18	1	4	4	8	13	0	4	5	5	14	11	13

THIRD DIVISION

	HOME						AWAY						Goal
	P	W	D	L	F	A	W	D	L	F	A	Pt	diff
1 Chester	18	6	2	1	22	10	5	2	2	15	10	37	37
2 Gillingham	18	7	1	1	15	2	3	5	1	10	4	36	25
3 Preston	18	5	3	1	25	10	4	5	0	16	8	35	41
4 Rochdale	18	3	4	2	18	13	5	4	3	14	7	29	32
5 Plymouth	18	5	2	2	16	8	3	3	3	15	13	29	31
6 Doncaster	19	6	3	1	12	8	2	2	5	9	17	29	21
7 Colchester	18	5	2	2	17	10	2	4	3	11	13	27	28
8 Bury	18	2	4	3	6	11	5	2	2	17	14	27	23
9 Darlington	18	3	3	3	9	8	3	5	1	10	9	26	19
10 Wigan	18	5	1	3	12	12	1	6	2	11	9	25	23
11 Cambridge	18	3	4	2	16	11	3	1	5	13	20	23	29
12 L Orient	18	5	2	2	14	8	1	3	5	7	17	23	21
13 Scunthorpe	18	3	3	3	11	11	2	4	3	15	11	22	26
14 Exeter	19	3	4	2	9	10	1	5	4	9	15	21	18
15 Mansfield	18	1	5	3	11	15	3	3	3	17	21	20	28
16 Hereford	18	2	3	4	14	15	2	5	2	7	8	20	21
17 Barnet	18	3	3	3	13	14	1	5	3	6	10	20	19
18 Cardiff	18	2	2	5	7	8	3	3	3	11	11	20	18
19 Northamptn	18	3	3	3	14	10	2	2	5	4	9	20	18
20 Fulham	18	3	6	0	16	8	0	4	5	6	14	19	22
21 Scarboro	18	2	6	1	10	10	2	1	6	11	18	19	21
22 Hartlepool	18	3	6	0	12	8	1	1	7	4	20	19	16
23 Lincoln	18	1	3	5	8	16	3	2	4	9	17	17	17
24 Torquay	18	2	2	5	8	20	0	3	6	9	20	11	17

Endsleigh Insurance League

FIRST DIVISION

	HOME						AWAY						Goal
	P	W	D	L	F	A	W	D	L	F	A	Pt	diff
1 Millwall	20	4	3	3	11	10	5	4	1	13	9	34	24
2 Sunderland	19	5	3	1	13	7	4	4	2	9	8	34

Ipswich earn point in injury time

Wolves still wait for McGhee and a change of luck

Wolverhampton W 2
Ipswich Town 2

BY PETER BALL

WOLVERHAMPTON Wanderers may be close to appointing a new manager, but they are not much nearer to improving their parlous position in the first division. Yesterday the pre-season promotion favourites threw away two points, the one that they hung on to just lifting them out of the bottom three.

It was a frustrating afternoon all round for the club and their supporters, particularly Jonathan Hayward, the chairman, who waited in vain for permission from Leicester City to approach Mark McGhee, their manager. Martin George, the Leicester chairman, however, left to visit his daughter in Edinburgh without making the phone call. Leicester remain determined to keep McGhee.

Hayward refused to make any comment yesterday and it looks as if McGhee will now have to decide whether to walk out on Leicester, or honour his contract. An interview in one of yesterday's papers suggested that he is likely to move to Wolves.

He said: "I am certain I am in my rights to go to Wolves as long as they are prepared to pay compensation. Wolves are the last of the sleeping giants waiting to be awoken, and opportunities like this don't come along every day."

With 20,000 turning up on a foul afternoon to watch a team which began the game in the bottom three, McGhee's comparison with Newcastle United does not look far fetched. And, in spite of their position in the table, there is a lot of good material for him to work with, the players refusing to allow the disruption to upset them.

"I asked the players to behave in a professional manner and I thought we did until the 92nd minute," Bobby Downes, the caretaker manager said afterwards. The 92nd minute had produced an Ipswich equaliser, a messy goal giving them the draw.

It was less than Wolves deserved, but that has been the story of their season. On this occasion Stowell claimed an own goal and an assist, but he was not the only guilty party as they snatched a draw from the brink of victory.

That has been a familiar story at Molineux, errors at both ends of the pitch undermining a side who otherwise often look the best team in a mediocre division. Yesterday they missed enough chances in the first half to have had the game won by half-time. Instead they trailed after Stowell's flap at a Milton free kick gave the ball to Marshall, who put his side ahead with their only attack of the half.

Bull had missed two glaring chances before the interval, and he missed another soon after half-time, but at last Goodman found the range after he had missed the best opportunity of all in a first half when Wolves' speedy attacks had threatened to over-run the visitors. After the interval, with Ferguson's prompting sending Wolves forward urgently, the goals at last came.

First Andy Thompson and Rankine combined to set up Goodman for a side-footed finish from five yards and then, as Ferguson sent him through, he clipped the ball over the diving Barber, two goals in ten minutes after a wait of 12 games for the striker. That appeared to give Wolves their first league win since October 28, which was no more than they deserved, but as the game entered its closing stages, Ipswich at last began to create some chances.

Inevitably, the Wolves defence cracked at the last. Mowbray was allowed a free header to meet Neil Thompson's corner and, although Ferguson cleared off the line, his header struck Stowell and rebounded into the net.

Commenting on the speculation over the possible appointment of McGhee later this week, Downes said: "I would have to have been blind or deaf not to have noticed it, but I have no idea whether I will still be in charge for our match at Luton next Sunday.

"I wouldn't expect the chairman to say anything to me and as yet nothing has happened."

WOLVERHAMPTON WANDERERS (3-5-2): M Stowell — D Richards, B Law, M Venus — M Rankine, M Atkins, N Emblen (sub: P Birch, 83), D Ferguson, A Thompson — D Goodman, S Bull

IPSWICH (3-5-2): F Barber — A Mowbray, S Sedgeley, C Thomsen — M Tancco (sub: G Uhlenbeek, 75), M Stockwell (sub: P Mason, 75), S Milton, G Wilkins, N Thompson — A Mathie, I Marshall

Referee: G Cain



The airborne Williams, of Plymouth, stops Warden, of Kingstonian, in his tracks yesterday. Photograph: Marc Aspland

Littlejohn ends Kingstonian's progress

Kingstonian 1
Plymouth Argyle 2

BY WALTER GAMMIE

A FLASH of inspiration five minutes from time by Adrian Littlejohn yesterday extinguished the last flicker of romance from an FA Cup second round that had delivered few of its usual emotional highs for the non-league contingent.

Littlejohn, 25, signed from Sheffield United in a deal that may cost Plymouth up to £200,000, received a pass from the touchline outside the penalty area, swivelled and hooked the ball over his shoulder and high into the net to see off the challenge of Kingstonian, of the Icis League premier division.

Kingstonian at least scored a goal, which was more than any non-league side had managed against League opposition on Saturday and had fired the enthusiasm of the 2,961 crowd in the trim, modern Kingsmeadow Stadium that the Surrey club has occupied since 1989.

It, too, was a good goal. Eddie Akuamoah, a Great Britain student international with a fine turn of speed, crossed from near the corner flag to the far post where Jon Warden, pulling away from the defence, headed the ball against the near post from where it bounced back into the far corner of the net.

Coming on the stroke of half-time, the goal lifted a match in which Plymouth had taken the early advantage, when, after eight minutes, Leadbitter threaded a shot through a gap in a crowded penalty area after Evans had knocked down a long free kick. Kingstonian, with increasing conviction, drove their way back into contention before gaining their equaliser.

For that Neil Warnock, the Plymouth manager, squarely blamed his forwards. "I told them at half-time that you can't win matches with eight players," he said. "I mean you dont see Ian Rush, at 30 whatever, just standing around up front."

Warnock's words certainly had their effect. Although Brooker, dummying Williams, unleashed a rasping shot, fisted away by Blackwell, Plymouth attacked with renewed purpose. Littlejohn saw a half-hit shot hit a post and then a more authentic strike smartly saved by Root.

Yet, after the early excitement and before Littlejohn's shot out of the gloom, the match had been drifting towards a draw. "I think we had some tired legs in the final ten minutes," Billy Smith, the Kingstonian manager said. "We had a bit of cramp out there."

Smith, like Warnock, had taken charge at the start of the season with a mission to banish particularly grim recent times. Kingstonian endured a fraught season to retain their Icis premier division status; Plymouth had not been so lucky, sinking to the Endsleigh League third division for the first time in their history.

For all that and their exposure to the perils of away ventures to Dorking, Marlow Kettering and Slough in recent times, Plymouth have a good record against non-league opposition in the Cup.

Their most distinguished supporter — the man with a shock of white hair lumpy green coat, hand-knitted black and green scarf and stick who used to lead the Labour Party and was sitting in the stand would say, quick as a flash, that Worcester City in 1978 remain the only non-league club to humble Plymouth.

So perhaps it was never going to be Kingstonian's day. Indeed, it brought to an end, after drawing with Peterborough United and beating Brighton, their modest run of never losing to a League club at Kingsmeadow.

KINGSTONIAN (4-3-3): D Root — J Finch, C Warmington, G Nebbeling, A Riley — D Rooker, A Fisher, C Luckett (sub: D Stevens, 85min) — P Wingfield (sub: J Bolton, 80), J Warden, E Akuamoah

PLYMOUTH ARGYLE (4-4-2): K Blackwell — M Petterson, M Heathcote, K Hill, P Williams — C Billy (sub: K McGhee, 81), G Clayton (sub: R Logan, 89), R Mauge, C Leadbitter (sub: I Baird, 70) — A Littlejohn, M Evans.

Referee: R Harris.

Sunderland signal promotion intent

Sunderland 1
Crystal Palace 0

BY LOUISE TAYLOR

WITH Michael Gray, he of the flowing blond locks, providing inspiration with some dashing sorties, Sunderland gained a victory in the rain yesterday which enabled them to draw level with Millwall at the head of the first division of the Endsleigh Insurance League, a position they can consolidate on Saturday when Millwall visit Roker Park.

Although Palace forced a succession of corners late in the game, Sunderland merited their victory and might have prevailed more comfortably had two strong appeals for penalties not been rejected.

Six minutes before half-time, however, Mr Riley had no hesitation in pointing to the spot, after Roberts had fouled Kelly, and Scott converted the kick to great relief all round, Sunderland having missed five penalties previously this season.

With Palace fielding five at the back and Sunderland's chief weakness being attack, a dead-ball situation always appeared the likeliest source of a goal. Sunderland passed the ball patiently and pleasingly, using the full width of the pitch, but lacked a cutting edge. Smith's half-time withdrawal with a groin injury reduced menace from the left flank and helped Palace to mount a second-half recovery — "the best we've played," Peter Nicholas, their coach said.

If Sunderland do win promotion — and the possibility of the North-East boasting three sides in the Premiership next season cannot be discounted — Peter Reid, the manager, will need every penny of the £10 million apparently promised by the club's owner, Bob Murray.

That offer is dependent on Reid taking the team up but, although strong at full back, Sunderland look in more immediate need of fresh faces, with a central defender, central midfielder and centre forward the main requirements, although after watching Boere chip horribly off target when Chamberlain dropped a cross, Reid might also add a goalkeeper to his shopping list.

Sunderland remain one of a poor division's better teams and Michael Gray might just be at home in football's A stream. He certainly brightened up a grey Wearside afternoon.

SUNDERLAND (4-1-3-2): A Chamberlain — D Kubicki, A Melville, R Ord, M Scott — K Ball — M Gray, S Agnew, M Smith (sub: B Atkinson, 48min) — L Howey (sub: P Gray, 65), D Kelly

CRYSTAL PALACE (5-3-2): N Martyn — M Edworthy, G Davies, A Roberts, D Gordon, J Vincent (sub: L McKenzie, 69) — D Hopkin, R Houghton, D Pitcher — G Taylor, D Freedman (sub: J Boere, 78).

Referee: M Riley

Late goals keep hopes alive

THAT as many as four non-league clubs emerged from Saturday's games to feature in the all-singing and dancing FA Cup third-round draw that BBC1 is stage-managing tonight, is because Cinderford Town and Gravesend and Northfleet, and Enfield and Woking drew their matches 1-1 (Walter Gammie writes).

Elsewhere, Endsleigh League sides flattened non-league fantasies of fame and fortune. Yet if the Venables-Law ball-juggling act does deliver the winners of replays tomorrow week a Manchester United or Newcastle United, then some ambitions might still be realised.

Perhaps for Cinderford, stranded in the rugby playing outpost of the Forest of Dean, the proceeds would simply buy breathing space in the battle to keep the club afloat in the Beazer Homes League.

Gravesend, however, might be able to start to bring their ground up to scratch for a life in the Vauxhall Conference — just as Woking used the FA Cup run that carried them to a fourth round tie against Everton four seasons ago to launch them out of the Isthmian League.

Shortage of money on the credit side of the ledger prevented Enfield taking up a Conference place this season. So their need is obvious.

Woking have designs on a place in the Football League, and have a new stand rising at their Kingfield ground. Indeed, the continuing work means that their replay will be switched to Wycombe, where Woking beat Enfield in an FA Trophy semi-final replay two seasons ago.

The continuing wizardry of Clive Walker, 38, but happily signed up last week until 1997, brought Woking their equaliser ten minutes from the end at Southbury Road. Bradley Thomas struck at a similarly opportune time for Cinderford.

Sean Farrell's first half hat-trick swiftly put paid to Bognor Regis, beaten 4-0 at Peterborough, while Diaz and Martinez, the Spaniards, were on the mark as Wigan Athletic scored four without reply in the second half at Barrow. Hitchin, the giant-killers of the previous round, were beaten 3-0 by Gillingham, for whom Fortune-West scored twice.

Dominant Jansher sends out warning

JANSHER KHAN completed a working year in Doha on Saturday that ought to send a warning to the world's squash players that he is unlikely to be shifted from his dominant position as the world No 1 in the foreseeable future (Colin McQuillan writes).

The Pakistani's 57-minute 15-4, 15-9, 17-16 defeat of Rodney Eyles, of Australia, completed his fourth successive Qatar International Championship success. It was also Jansher's tenth leading tournament victory since defeating Eyles, the world No 2, on the same court 12 months ago, and brought his total of victories on the professional circuit to 71 since he first unexpectedly overturned his legendary countryman, Jahangir Khan, at the Hong Kong Open in 1987.

"I have concentrated on improving my shots and my tactics this year," the 26-year-old world champion said after the final in Doha. "I should really have finished the last game for about eight points but I was a bit tired from all the recent competition.

"Now I am going home to Peshawar for at least two months work and training to recover my old fitness."

Eyles is equally certain about what his future programme will be. "I am off to Bombay now to play in the Mahindra Challenge, one tournament that Jansher never enters," he said. "After that, I keep chasing him, and when I catch him, I might just strangle him."

Bully for the new men pushing back prejudices about hockey

Mel Webb finds enlightenment, and a nice slice of quiche, as darkest Chigwell yields a surprising lesson in sporting machismo

The first real disappointment came 24 hours before I even got to the match. No longer, I was told by a chum who continues to play the game, even unto a great age, do they bully-off at hockey. From that moment on, I thought, it was never going to be quite the same, no matter what happened on the field of play.

Some non-cogniscenti of hockey might be as surprised as I was to be told that the match is started these days with a "push-back". So what was wrong with the good, old-fashioned, bully-off, then? At least it sounded appropriately macho and, well, sporting, somehow.

Bulliers-off, I thought, would, having hockeyed, launch themselves into door-stop sausage sandwiches and multiple pints of the warm and foaming; pushers-back, on the other hand, might, if feeling particularly daring, toy with a half of lager shandy, nibble quiche and sup those funny yogurt things with small pots of raspberry jam attached.

Quite apart from the method used to set the ball in motion, there has always been something about men playing hockey that, to this prejudiced and admittedly distanced eye, has seemed slightly effete.

I was always able to accept — and if this sounds sexist, that is because it probably is — that, for the female of the species, it was an agreeable and harmless way to spend leisure time. But men haring about armed with implements that looked like Stone Age putters, trying to clout what looked like a white cricket ball into a silly little net past a goalkeeper who looked like a sort of primitive Robocop? No thanks.

In a nutshell, and excepting the jingoistically ecstatic moment when the Great Britain team went potty in Seoul seven years ago and won an Olympic gold medal, I thought men's hockey was slightly soppy, and the new concept of pushing back just added to the prejudice.

Well, I was wrong, and I admit it. Pushers-back are just as capable of spending their sporting lives teetering on the brink of unbridled, ankle-tapping violence as their bully-off ancestors.

I discovered this at the National League match between Old Loughtonians and Canterbury on Saturday. It was, I confess, infuriatingly interesting.

Let one thing be understood before we go any further. I know nothing of the nuances of hockey, unlike most of those present on a dank and inhospitable day in darkest Chigwell. For them, it was a good match full of skill, won 3-2 by Old Loughtonians. It impinged upon this eye at a much more basic level.

First, there was the pitch. I am aware that grass is no longer the perfect surface on which to play hockey. Why rely on nature when the petro-chemical industry can come up with something better? I was, however, not quite prepared for the Old Loughtonians pitch. It was plastic, heavily impregnated with sand and coloured the hue of of a baby's nappy.

It was, in all probability, perfect for the players. Yet the thought lingered that it was just that bit too perfect, if only because the tantalising imperfections of Mother Nature can provide a wonderful escape clause for flaws in technique. When you have just hit a pass that misses its target by a matter of yards, it is a touch difficult to blame a playing surface that owes more to a spirit level than a heavy roller.

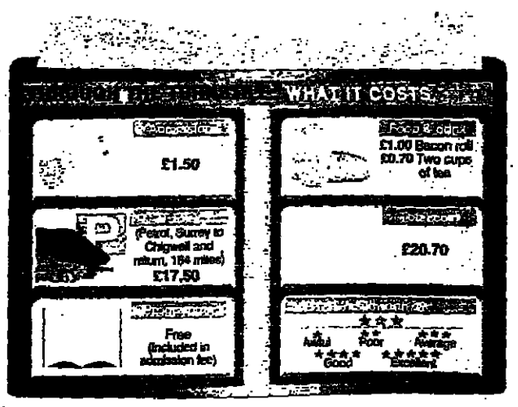
Then, and most importantly, there was the power of the game. To this spectator, the intricate stickwork of these skilled practitioners went largely unnoticed. It was all so quick, performed in less than a blink of the eye. But, boy, do they hit that little white pill . . .

For me, the highlights of a match won narrowly by one of the best teams in the country were the raking passes, hit with little apparent effort yet with so much pace; cutlass blows rather than epée thrusts.

To a total novice in the hockey arts they engendered the same delicious shiver of pleasure as that produced by the sight of the perfectly hit five-iron, the exquisitely stroked cover drive. A vicarious pleasure, admittedly, but no less valid for all that.

Yes, I enjoyed my afternoon at Old Loughtonians; it provided 70 minutes of action at modest cost, and it did not even matter that the grandstand was a block of open-air terracing. I would go back, I think.

A slice of quiche? Yes, please.



Giles hat-trick destroys Hounslow's resistance

BY SYDNEY FRISKIN

CALUM GILES scored a hat-trick as Havant defeated Hounslow 6-2, at Chiswick yesterday to qualify for the fifth round of the Hockey Association Cup.

An ankle injury prevented Hounslow's centre-forward Robert Thompson from playing a full part in the game. He was deployed only to strike the short corners, which flowed in thick and fast late on.

Hounslow started well with a goal in the fifth minute by Le Huray and held the lead for 20 minutes before Lawson equalised for Havant. A goal by Giles from a short corner and two by Pattison put Havant 4-1 ahead at the interval.

The lead was increased to 5-1 when Giles converted another short corner, with Owen Jones replying for Hounslow. Giles, however, converted a penalty in the 70th minute for his third goal.

Teddington, the holders, Reading, Cannock, Guildford, East Grinstead, Old Loughtonians and Southgate joined Havant in the fifth round but Southgate were given a fright at Osterley by Indian Gymkhana, Woods scoring with only two minutes to spare for a 4-3 victory. Crutchley converted three short corners for Cannock in their 4-2 win at Surbiton.

The National League went into its winter recess on Saturday with four teams, Cannock, Reading, Southgate and Old Loughtonians, holding joint leadership of the first division with 22 points.

Southgate's two-point advantage at the start of the day disappeared after they were held to a goalless draw at home by Barford Tigers.

Cannock, helped by a 9-1 away win over Indian Gymkhana, moved to the top of the table on goal difference. Crutchley scoring four goals, one from a short corner, to take his total for the season to 20 in nine matches. Edwards chipped in with two goals from a short corner and a penalty stroke.

Mark Hoskin scored three times for Reading in the 5-2 defeat of Bournville but Old Loughtonians were given a fight at home to Canterbury before they eventually ran out 3-2 winners. Guildford snatched a 3-2 victory over Surbiton, with Hall scoring a late winner.

Beeston's 7-2 victory over City of Portsmouth put them nine points clear at the top of the second division.

Lister helps Ipswich to salvage cup run

PLAYERS in the national women's league were kept busy with league and cup matches on the final weekend before the hockey season enters its two-month recess (Alix Ramsay writes).

Ipswich managed to salvage something from their poor season, putting five goals past lowly Bracknell on Saturday and eliminating Sutton Coldfield 2-1 yesterday. Their league ambitions are virtually dead — they are lying sixth in the premier division — so a good start to their cup challenge was top of the agenda.

That led to a tense 70 minutes at Tuddenham Road, Sutton having ended their cup hopes in previous seasons. Eventually Jane Smith broke the deadlock, giving Ipswich the lead after 19 minutes. A hotly contested penalty five minutes later gave Lisa Bayliss the chance to equalise before the Ipswich captain, Sandie Lister, put them into the fourth round with a penalty stroke on the hour.

Tina Cullen had a profitable couple of days for Hightown, scoring five goals in the two matches. On Saturday she scored twice in their 3-0 win over Slough, so increasing their lead at the top of the league to three points, and then secured Hightown's place in the next round of the cup with a hat-trick as the Liverpool side beat Southampton 4-0.

Trojans, meanwhile, in the first division, have their eyes on promotion. They routed Exmouth 6-0 for the second time this season to increase their lead to six points, but struggled to beat non-league Poynton yesterday 3-2 on penalty strokes after drawing 2-2 at full time.

Results, page 32

O'Grady praises champion's touch as Sound Man impresses

Dunwoody gives Sandown master-class

BY JULIAN MUSCAT

EDWARD O'GRADY yesterday offered a ringing endorsement of Richard Dunwoody's skills in the wake of the jockey's 244-1 four-timer at Sandown on Saturday, which culminated in a two-day riding ban for the reigning champion.

O'Grady watched in admiration as Dunwoody brought his Sound Man home a facile winner of the Mitsubishi Shogun Tingle Creek Trophy Chase. "It will live with me for a long time to remember Richard saying that the horse took his breath away," the trainer said. But the afternoon turned sour for O'Grady when Dunwoody was suspended for using his whip with unreasonable frequency aboard Chief's Song, a last-gasp winner from Eskimo Nel in the William Hill Handicap Hurdle.

"Richard was absolutely sensational on Chief's Song," O'Grady ventured. "It was a head-to-head between the champion and the aspiring champion. There is no doubt that, while Tony McCoy is the heir apparent, the master remains the master by some way. The ban is a travesty. People don't appreciate the finesse and power of the man."

That Dunwoody later acknowledged he had transgressed the rules graphically illustrates the gulf between whip guidelines in Britain and Ireland. He does not intend to appeal against the stewards' decision.

O'Grady has few peers at the Cheltenham Festival, where he has dispatched 13 winners from his base in Ireland. When Sound Man lines up for the Queen Mother Champion Chase in March, few will want to challenge this illustrious trainer's assertion that the seven-year-old is the most exciting horse to pass through his hands.

Sound Man was a revelation on Saturday. His dismissal of a top-class field bore the hallmark of greatness, albeit that Viking Flagship, the reigning two-mile champion chaser, turned in an uncharacteristically lifeless performance. Reported none the worse for his exertions yesterday, it is now up to the David Nicholson-trained chaser to redeem himself in the Castleford Chase at Wetherby on December 27.

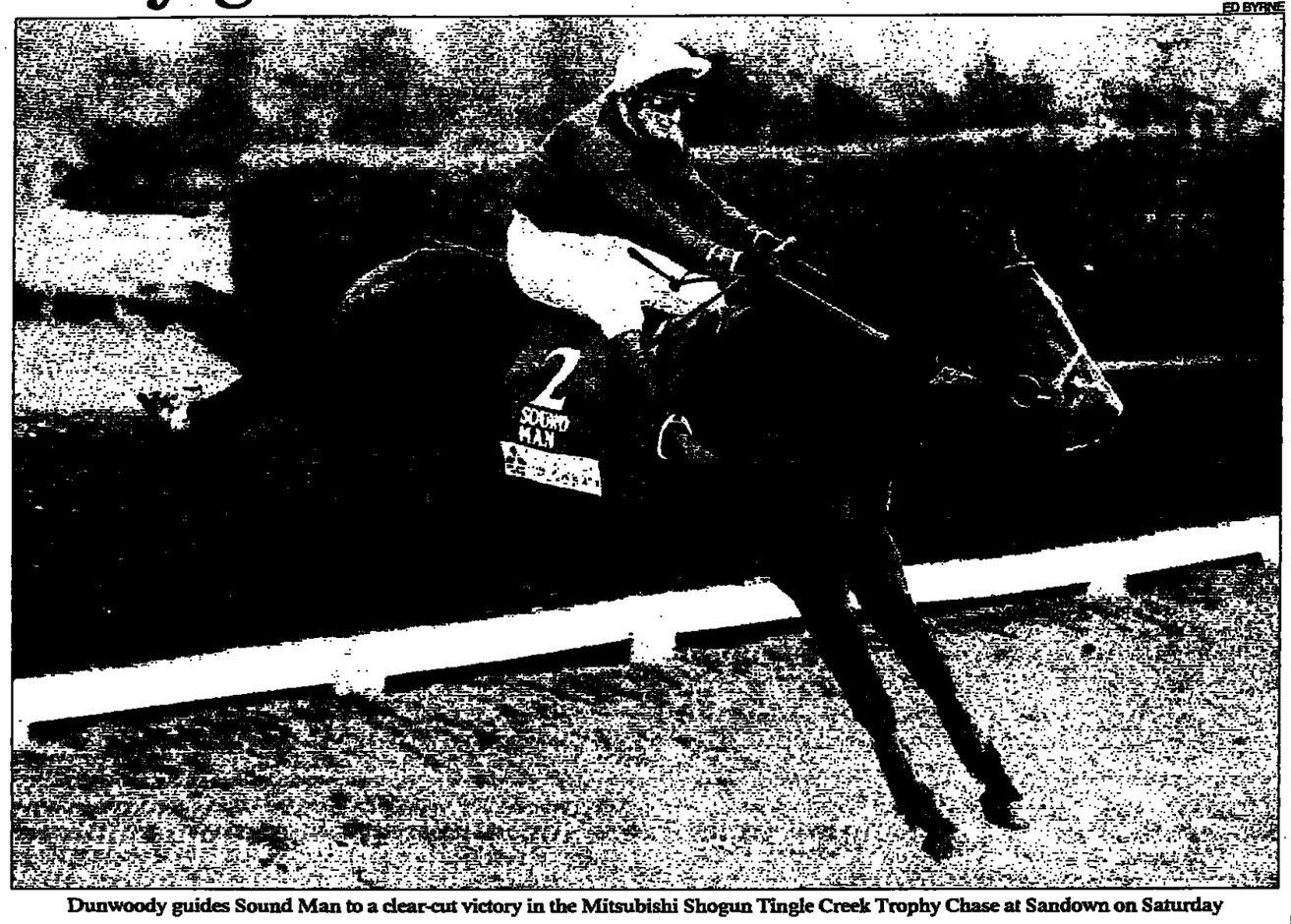
O'Grady, meanwhile, is to give Sound Man a well-earned rest after the seven-year-old landed his fourth race in a hectic six-week spell. Sound Man is to bypass the King George VI Chase at Kempton later this month. Granted good ground, he is expected to prepare for Cheltenham in the Newlands Chase over two miles at Naas on February 24.

"I thought he looked and jumped like a champion," O'Grady said in assessing the performance. "I've had some great ups and downs at Cheltenham but I'm very much looking forward to taking Sound Man there. I've had as good as him before, but certainly nothing as exciting."

Nicholson, whose Storm Alert gave vain chase to Sound Man, did not leave empty-handed. Certainly Strong has the top two-mile novice chases in her sights after a fluent victory in the Henry VIII Novices' Chase, and Hill Of Tullow is one of six Nicholson entrants in the valuable Feltham Novices' Chase at Kempton after his triumph in the Ewell Chase.

☐ Richard Evans, the racing correspondent of *The Times*, has been short-listed for the Racing Journalist of the Year Award to be announced in London today.

ED BYRNE



Dunwoody guides Sound Man to a clear-cut victory in the Mitsubishi Shogun Tingle Creek Trophy Chase at Sandown on Saturday

Bailey waiting on test results

KIM BAILEY was yesterday left to speculate over the poor showing of Master Oats, the Cheltenham Gold Cup winner, who was pulled up on his reappearance in the Rehearsal Chase at Chepstow on Saturday (Julian Muscat writes). The race went to Grange Brake, the 12-1 outsider of the three runners.

Although Master Oats has a history of breaking blood vessels, he was not "scoped" by vets at Chepstow in the immediate aftermath of his lacklustre showing. All future running plans have been suspended until later in the week, when Bailey learns the results of test samples taken from the nine-year-old.

"At this stage I have no idea why he ran like that," the trainer said. "The horse appears to have returned home fine. He seems quite perky and has eaten up, which is normal for him. We will let him down for a few days, work him and then scope him to see if anything shows up. The Gold Cup in March is what counts and I'm sure we will have him back at his best by then."

Jamie Osborne, who rode the horse, reported he travelled like a Gold Cup winner for a circuit before capitulating in a matter of strides. The description befits that of a horse suffering broken blood vessels, and Bailey said: "There is always the doubt at the back of my mind that he will have broken."

The trainer rebuffed suggestions that a virus may be responsible for the poor effort. "We've had one or two perform badly but basically most have performed as well as I've expected," he said.

Old guard can benefit from lessons of youth

To back or not to back? Punters grapple with the question every time a racehorse travels from outside Britain. The conundrum is acute enough when raiders traverse the Irish Sea. It becomes unfathomable when they venture from France — or the pastures of Pennsylvania, as did Lonesome Glory to acclaim at Sandown last week. They often perform to the extremes of brilliance or dismal failure, but rarely in between.

If punters are perplexed by their worth, those with a broader interest will recognise their tender years. It is a constant theme. Lonesome Glory, a seven-year-old, is already a dual Eclipse Award winner in the United States. In 1991, The Fellow, trained in France, became the first six-year-old to land the King George VI Chase since Mill House 28 years earlier — until his stablemate, Algan, made off with the most recent renewal.

A British trainer will habitually describe his six-year-old as "a big baby, so immature that anything he does over hurdles is a bonus." We often hear of the six-year-old that he "is still growing" even though textbooks declare the thoroughbred fully mature before his fifth birthday. These "store" horses are educated with a thoroughness cherished by mothers on behalf of their sons. Perish the thought, but could we inadvertently be robbing them of their best years by this investment in time and patience?

The evidence is compelling. There exists an overwhelming belief that a promising horse will quickly be ruined if it is rushed. Such a philosophy has led to a proliferation of bumpers — essentially educational races, free of obstacles, from which Flat runners are excluded. They are largely populated by five-year-olds.

But here is the rub: several five-year-olds are already active in point-to-points, some of which are staged over regulation fences. Promising pointers of that age command a small fortune on the open market, yet often revert to hurdles on their introduction to racing under Rules.

In an effort to "speed up" the breed over the last decade, many National Hunt breeders have eschewed the traditional jumping stallion for an altogether sharper sort. The fruits of their endeavours have yet to be harvested, which suggests that, to the trainer's eye, the jumping-bred six-year-old remains no more or less than a raw-boned novice.

Certainly nothing in the pedigrees of Lonesome Glory, The Fellow and Algan offers them an inherent advantage. Lonesome Glory is by an Irish St Leger winner in Transworld, who would have surely taken his place among National Hunt sires but for his export to America. And the French pair are infused with small quantities of non-thoroughbred blood. If the thoroughbred is a symbol of precocity, its dilution surely lessens the potential for early maturity.

Of course, there are exceptions, and one of them is Young Hustler. This rugged customer was five when he graduated to fences, and still tackles them with more zest than most. It is no coincidence that Young Hustler is trained by Nigel Twiston-Davies, one of an increasing number prepared to explore new ground. Like interval training, that other affront to the bastions of old thinking, Britain's posse of younger trainers may yet transform the image of the "store" from that of a sleeping giant.

JULIAN MUSCAT



Racing commentary

EDINBURGH

THUNDERER

12.30 Kilnamartyra Girl	2.00 Sudden Spin
1.00 Ballindoo	2.30 Blue Charm
1.30 Fiveleigh Builds	3.00 Wills Telmar
	3.30 Duke Of Perth

The Times Private Handicapper's top rating:
12.30 KILNAMARTYRA GIRL

GUIDE TO OUR RACECARD

103 (12) 0-0432 GOOD TIMES 74 (CD,BF,F,G,S) (Mrs D Robinson) B Hall 9-10-0 B West (4) 88

Racecard number. Draw in brackets. Six-figure form (F — fell. P — pulled up. U — unseated rider. B — brought down. S — slipped up. R — refused. D — disqualified). Horse's name. Days since last outing. J II jumps. F II flat. (B — blinkers. V — visor. H — hood. E — Eyeshield. C — course winner. D — distance winner. CD — course and distance winner. BF — beaten favourite in latest race). Going on which horse has won (F — firm, good to firm, hard. G — good. S — soft, good to soft, heavy). Owner in brackets. Trainer. Age and weight. Rider plus any allowance. The Times Private Handicapper's rating.

GOING: GOOD TO FIRM (FIRM IN PLACES) SIS

12.30 LONGNIDDRY MARES ONLY MAIDEN HURDLE
(£2,026: 2m) (11 runners)

1		3-00	ANOTHER CHAPTER 14 (H Johnson) H Johnson 5-11-0	P Carberry 84
2		P-845FR	BOLANEY GIRL 16 (J Proudlock) F Murtagh 6-11-0	B Harding (3) 75
3		PPP/	CARZARA 998 (Mrs I Forrest) B Mactaggart 5-11-0	G Lee (3) —
4		P0-0	CHANTRY BELLINI 14 (Mrs J Kirk Scott) Mrs S Austin 6-11-0	D Wilkinson 67
5		05-5005	CHARLISTIONA 11 (J Dodds) J Dodds 4-11-0	A Manners (7) 68
6		00/3302	KILNAMARTYRA GIRL 14 (P Cowen) J Parkes 5-11-0	R Guest 69
7		0P-0	MISS GREENYARDS 25 (J Blacklock) J Holmes 4-11-0	F Leahy (3) —
8		00F-620	PERSIAN SYMPHONY 143 (S Pittendrigh) S Pittendrigh 4-11-0	Mr P Murray (7) —
9		312	RACHAEL'S DAWN 17 (BF,F) (Mrs C Ward) J Eyre 5-11-0	O Pears —
10		0	STRATHTORE DREAM 25 (Miss L Perratt) Miss L Perratt 4-11-0	P Niven —
11		PF	TRI MY WAY 51 (Exors of R Lamb) D Lamb 5-11-0	J Burke —

BETTING: 7-4 Kilnamartyra Girl, 11-4 Rachael's Dawn, 9-2 Persian Symphony, 7-1 Another Chapter, 10-1 Charlistiona, Chantry Bellini, 16-1 others

1994: NO CORRESPONDING RACE

FORM FOCUS

BOLANEY GIRL best recent effort 2nd 5th of 13 to Scally Cay in novice hurdle at Carlisle (2m 1f, good to firm) with CHARLISTIONA (10lr worse off) 3l 7th and ANOTHER CHAPTER 20l 10th. CHARLISTIONA 14¼l 5th of 15 to Topcawyer in novice handicap hurdle at Carlisle (2m 1f, good). KILNAMARTYRA GIRL 5l 2nd of 21 to Star Rage in novice hurdle at Catterick (2m, good to firm) with CHANTRY BELLINI 22l 11th and ANOTHER CHAPTER 48l 16th. PERSIAN SYMPHONY 3l 2nd of 9 to Mills A Minute in maiden hurdle at Dundalk (2m 110yd, firm) on penultimate start. RACHAEL'S DAWN 5l 2nd of 5 to La Bella Villa in National Hunt Flat race at Aintree (2m 110yd, good to firm). Selection: KILNAMARTYRA GIRL

1.00 PRESTON PANS SELLING HANDICAP HURDLE
(£2,540: 3m) (7 runners)

1		2/5280-	THE LAUGHING LORD 1725 (F,G,S) (P Russell) Miss L Russell 9-11-12	A Thornton —
2		543012	BALLINDOO 31 (BF,F) (R Armson) T Donnelly 6-11-4	Mr R Armson 91
3		12513F	YACHT CLUB 11 (D,F) (E Spencer) J Eyre 13-11-4	O Pears 90
4		0/PP023-	DUTCH BLUES 231 (S) (Scotmorth Racing) Mrs S Austin 8-11-0	D Wilkinson 93
5		25P-420	ARTAM 43 (R Dalton) T Carr 6-10-3	B Storey 90
6		5-P6234	MUSRD 27 (B) (D Pryde) D Lamb 6-10-0	J Burke 69
7		500/F/0	CIRCLE BOY 17 (Cadney Ltd) W Storey 8-10-0	P Carberry 82

Long handicap: Circle Boy 9-11

BETTING: 9-4 Yacht Club, 5-2 Ballindoo, 5-1 The Laughing Lord, 6-1 Dutch Blues, 7-1 Marfid, 8-1 Artam, 16-1 Circle Boy

1994: NO CORRESPONDING RACE

FORM FOCUS

THE LAUGHING LORD best recent domestic effort 3½l 2nd of 9 to Mo Ishi Da in handicap chase at Uttoxeter (2m 5f, heavy). BALLINDO 11 2 of 14 to Springtime Affair in novice hurdle at Uttoxeter (2m 4f 110yd, good) YACHT CLUB about ½l 3rd of 6 to Moonshine Dancer in handicap hurdle at Wetherby (2m 4f 110yd, good). DUTCH BLUES 10¾l 3rd to Five Flags in handicap hurdle at Wetherby (2m 7f 110yd, good to firm). ARTAM 11l 2nd of 4 to South Westerly in handicap hurdle at Wetherby (3m 1f, good to firm) on penultimate start. MURFD 8l 3rd of 4 to South Westerly in handicap hurdle at Wetherby (3m, firm) on penultimate start. CIRCLE BOY 24l 8th to Topcawyer in handicap hurdle at Carlisle (2m 1f, good). Selection: THE LAUGHING LORD

1.30 WEE JIMMY MITCHELL HANDICAP CHASE (£3,406: 3m) (6 runners)

1		1-11232	FIVELEIGH BUILDS 9 (D,F,G,S) (Miss L Russell) Miss L Russell 8-12-0	A Thornton 89
2		211-235	COUNTORUS 9 (CD,F,G,S) (M Thompson) H Johnson 9-11-10	P Carberry 95
3		13314-6	PIMS GUNNER 9 (F,G,S) (A Chappell) M Hammond 7-11-8	P Niven 94
4		631316-	PURITAN 254 (C,F,G,S) (J Parks) N Tinkler 6-11-7	A S Smith 91
5		3233/43	CHARMING GALE 37 (V,D,F,G,S) (Mrs J Etherton) Mrs S Bradburne 8-10-0	A Watt (7) 95
6		13-F356	FORWARD GLEN 12 (D,F) (P Cheesbrough) P Cheesbrough 8-10-0	R Supple 93

Long handicap: Forward Glen 9-10.

BETTING: 9-4 Fiveleigh Builds, 3-1 Countorus, 7-2 Pims Gunner, 4-1 Puritan, 7-1 Charming Gale, 10-1 Forward Glen

1994: SIR PETER LELY 7-11-9 Mr C Bonner (7-1) M Hammond 6 ran

FORM FOCUS

FIVELEIGH BUILDS 2l 2nd of 16 to High Padie in handicap chase at Newcastle (3m, good) with COUNTORUS (4lb better off) 13½l 5th and PIMS GUNNER (11lb better off) 2¼l 6th. COUNTORUS 18½l 3rd of 6 to Romany Creek in handicap chase at Carlisle (3m, good to firm). PIMS GUNNER best recent effort beat Silver Stick 2l in 13-runner handicap chase at Kelso (3m 1f, good to firm). PURITAN beat Magellan Bay 7l in 19-runner handicap chase at Doncaster (2m 3f 110yd, good) on penultimate start. CHARMING GALE 8l 3rd of 7 to Emerald Storm in handicap chase at Kelso (2m 6f 110yd, good to firm) with FORWARD GLEN 9¼l 5th. FORWARD GLEN 90l 6th of 11 to Eazby Joker in handicap chase at Hexham (2m 4f 110yd, good). Selection: CHARMING GALE

2.00 GOREBRIDGE CONDITIONAL JOCKEYS HANDICAP HURDLE
(£2,211: 2m) (6 runners)

1		0P/121-2	SUDDEN SPIN 11 (D,6,S) (B Parker) S Norton 5-11-10	G Lee 93
2		20F4-62	CHANTRY BEATH 6 (D,F) (Racegoers Club) C Thornton 4-11-6	N Horrocks (7) 89
3		521F-04	RAPID MOVER 28 (B,C,D,F,G) (Mrs J McFadyen-Murray) D Nolan 8-11-3	B Harding 98
4		B2-2325	KEEP BATTLING 9 (C,D,G) (J Goldie) J Goldie 5-11-3	F Leahy 90
5		56-144	PEGGY GORDON 7 (F) (F Flynn, R Maddan) Mrs D Thomson 4-10-1	G Cahill (3) 98
6		040-606	BOETHIUS 37 (J Walton) F Walton 6-10-0	D Parker 86

Long handicap: Boethius 9-4

BETTING: 7-4 Sudden Spin, 5-2 Chantry Beath, 11-4 Keep Battling, 7-1 Peggy Gordon, 10-1 Rapid Mover, 25-1 Boethius

1994: MAJAL 5-11-10 P Midgley (12-1) J Wainwright 9 ran

FORM FOCUS

SUDDEN SPIN 3½l 2nd of 10 to Elisa in handicap hurdle at Uttoxeter (2m, firm). CHANTRY BEATH 7l 2nd of 7 to Star Rage in handicap hurdle at Newcastle (2m, good) RAPID MOVER 18l 4th of 4 to Strong Approach in handicap chase at Carlisle (2m, firm). KEEP BATTLING 12¾l 5th of 11 to Thornton Gate in handicap hurdle at Newcastle (2m, good). PEGGY GORDON 13½l 4th to Colonel In Chief in novice hurdle at Kelso (2m 110yd, good to soft) BOETHIUS 20l 6th to Wild Race Of York in selling hurdle at Kelso (2m, firm). Selection: CHANTRY BEATH

2.30 LEVY BOARD NOVICES HANDICAP HURDLE
(£2,603: 2m 4f) (8 runners)

1		624156	MOBILE MISS 16 (D,F) (S Pittendrigh) S Pittendrigh 4-11-13	Mr P Murray (7) —
2		435-426	CAMPTOSAURUS 25 (Mrs D Alder) D Alder 6-11-5	A Thornton 96
3		6650-04	BLUE CHARM 31 (Mrs M Lindsay) Mrs S Bradburne 5-10-12	K Jones 95
4		00/5P	TRIENNIUM 7 (M Boyd) R Allan 6-10-7	B Storey 90
5		226335	BLOOMING SPRING 7 (Mr J McGregor) Mrs D Thomson 6-10-6	L O'Hara 83
6		306-042	THISONESFORALICE 17 (Mrs A Goldie) J Goldie 7-10-5	F Perratt (3) 96
7		06-0	STRONGALONG 24 (J Stephenson) P Cheesbrough 5-10-0	R Supple 69
8		03F2F-	BROUGHPARK AZALEA 188 (B McNichol) J Berlett 6-10-0	M Moloney 90

Long handicap: Broughpark Azalea 9-13.

BETTING: 9-4 Thisonesforalice, 4-1 Blue Charm, 9-2 Mobile Miss, 6-1 Camptosaurus, Blooming Spring, 8-1 Strongalong, 10-1 others

1994: NOVAN 4-11-12 T Reed (2-1) L Lungo 11 ran

FORM FOCUS

MOBILE MISS best recent effort beat Maid Of Glendurgh neck in 7-runner handicap hurdle at Downpatrick (2m 2l, good to firm) CAMPTOSAURUS 11½l 6th of 11 to Dancing Dove in handicap hurdle at Kelso (2m 3l, good) BLUE CHARM about 6¼l 4th of 9 to George Ashford in novice hurdle at Hexham (2m 4f 110yd, good to firm) BLOOMING SPRING 20l 5th of 18 to Gymcrack Cyrano in amateurs maiden hurdle at Kelso (2m 6f 110yd, good to soft) with TRIENNIUM (4lb better off) pulled up 2 out. THISONESFORALICE 8l 2nd of 6 to Amiace in novice handicap hurdle at Aintree (2m, firm). Selection: CAMPTOSAURUS

3.00 LASSWADE NOVICES CHASE (£2,827: 2m 4f) (10 runners)

1		F3221P	KILLIMOR LAD 12 (BF,F) (C Jenkins) P Monteith 8-11-5	B Harding (3) 88
2		4P/4/21	ROCKET RUN 7 (F,G,S) (P Russell) Miss L Russell 7-11-6	A Thornton 89
3		00-140P	SHULTAN 23 (F) (J Wade) J Wade 6-11-1	K Jones —
4		65445/0	GRAND SCENERY 12 (Scottish Steeplechasing Partners) H Johnson 7-11-0	P Carberry —
5		6441-50	MASTER OF TROY 23 (F,G,S) (C Fawcett) C Parker 7-11-0	D Parker (3) —
6		422-34F	PAGLIACCIO 7 (A Steward) M Hammond 7-11-0	P Niven —
7		035-556	QUARTZ HILL 14 (Exors of R Lamb) D Lamb 6-11-0	A Manners (7) 67
8		P0P-03P	STRONG MEASURE 11 (F) (Leading Star Racing) P Cheesbrough 7-11-0	R Supple 83
9		04111-F	WILLS TELMAR 44 (F,G,S) (B Parkinson) D Tochatter 7-11-0	R Garritty —
10		PPP05-P	MY GONNY 11 (W Harvey) J Dodds 6-10-9	R Guest —

BETTING: 7-4 Wills Telmar, 3-1 Rocket Run, 7-1 Master Of Troy, 8-1 Killimor Lad, Grand Scenery, Pagliaccio, 14-1 Strong Measure, 16-1 others

1994: HEDLEY MILL 6-11-0 Mr A Parker (2-1 fav) J Hope 11 ran

FORM FOCUS

KILLIMOR LAD left alone last in 3-runner novice chase at Newcastle (2m 110yd, firm). ROCKET RUN beat Barndown (till by 6l in novice chase at Kelso (3m 1f, good to soft). GRAND SCENERY about 17l 5th of 15 to Leave It To Judge in handicap hurdle at Killarney (2m 6f, yielding to soft) on penultimate start. MASTER OF TROY 11¾l 5th of 9 to Go Ballistic in handicap hurdle at Worcester (2m 4f, good) on penultimate start. STRONG MEASURE 7¾l 3rd of 6 to Superlop in novice handicap chase at Hexham (2m 110yd, good to firm) on penultimate start, with QUARTZ HILL (2lb better off) declard 5th. WILLS TELMAR going well when falling on chasing debut. Last season completed treble over hurdles, beating Maretta by 10l in 5-runner novice event at Sedgefield (2m 5f 110yd, good). Selection: WILLS TELMAR (nap)

3.30 MUSSELBURGH INTERMEDIATE OPEN NATIONAL HUNT FLAT RACE
(£1,446: 2m) (8 runners)

1		2-4	ADAMATIC 28 (G Adam) R Allan 4-11-4	S Malmose (7) —
2		0-0	CHARI LINE 12 (J Appleby) J Appleby 5-11-4	T Reed —
3		23	DUKE OF PERTH 44 (W Black) H Johnson 4-11-4	P Carberry —
4		53-0	KINGS MASQUERADE 23 (Yorkshire Racing Club) J Jefferson 4-11-4	M Newton (7) —
5		6-	MAGSURE 359 (D Leech) G Moore 5-11-4	N Bentley —
6		0	MEESONS EXPRESS 23 (Mrs K McLuckock) D Eddy 5-11-4	B Storey —
7			TAZIE MAITE (B) (D Harrison) J J O'Neill 4-11-4	A Roche (3) —
8		6	FLOWER OF NAP 23 (Tony Sweetman) J Eyre 4-10-13	O Pears —

BETTING: 5-2 Kings Masquerade, 3-1 Duke Of Perth, 4-1 Adamatic, 6-1 Magsure, Tazie Maite, 8-1 Meesons Express, 10-1 others

1994: NO CORRESPONDING RACE

FORM FOCUS

ADAMATIC 9l 4th of 14 to Chopwell Curtains in National Hunt Flat race at Carlisle (2m 1f, good to firm). DUKE OF PERTH 14l 2nd of 10 to Sir Gymcrack in National Hunt Flat race at Sedgefield (2m 1f 110yd, firm). KINGS MASQUERADE 1¾l and neck 3rd of 16 to Manyman in National Hunt Flat race at Carlisle (2m 1f, firm). MAGSURE 35l 8th of 16 to Cittadino in National Hunt Flat race at Doncaster (2m, good). FLOWER OF NAP 27l 6th of 18 to Peace Lord in National Hunt Flat race at Market Rasen (1m 6f, soft). Selection: DUKE OF PERTH

COURSE SPECIALISTS

TRAINERS	Wins	Runs	%	JOCKEYS	Winners	Rides	%
N Tinkler	9	26	34.6	D Parker	4	22	18.2
J Jefferson	4	15	26.7	P Niven	8	48	16.3
G Moore	8	31	25.8	B Storey	17	105	16.2
J J O'Neill	4	16	25.0	T Reed	12	90	13.3
C Parker	8	36	22.2	D Bentley	5	43	11.6
M Hammond	20	93	21.5	No other qualifiers			

RESULTS FROM SATURDAY'S FIVE MEETINGS

Sandown Park

Going: good, good to firm in places

12.50 (3m 110yd ch) 1, Hill Of Tullow (R Dunwoody, 5-4). 2, Camitrov (7-1); 3, Maremma Gale (100-1) Smith's Band 10-11 fav (l) 4 ran 2½l, dist D Nicholson Tote £1.90, DF £2.80 CSF £8.09

1.25 (2m 6f hdle) 1, Redeemyourself (A P McCoy, 11-4). 2, Nahthon Lad (5-4 fav), 3, Anzum (9-1). 6 ran 3l, nk J Gifford. Tote: £3.10; £1.70, £1.70 DF £3.10. CSF £6.50.

2.00 (2m ch) 1, Sound Man (R Dunwoody, 5-6 fav), 2, Storm Alert (16-1), 3, Trevado (9-2). 5 ran, 5l, 4l E O'Grady (Ire). Tote: £1.90; £1.20, £2.50 DF £8.40 CSF £11.10

2.35 (2m ch) 1, Certainly Strong (R Dunwoody, 6-1), 2, Captain Khedive (11-2), 3, Simple Arithmetic (5-2). Inchcailloch 13-8 fav (l). 6 ran 7l, 5l D Nicholson Tote: £6.30; £2.20, £1.50 DF £12.20 CSF £33.19

3.10 (2m 110yd hdle) 1, Chief's Song (R Dunwoody, 15-2), 2, Eskimo Nel (8-1), 3, Bookcase (20-1), 4, Bimsey (5-1 fav). 22 ran Sh hd, 3½l, S Dow Tote: £7.40, £2.10, £2.50, £3.10, £2.70 DF: £34.90 Trio £261.50 CSF £63.14 Tricast. £1,082.97

3.40 (2m 110yd hdle) 1, Simply Dashing (R Garritty, 7-2); 2, La Menorquina (15-2). 3, Nova Run (3-1 jt-fav) Aniace 3-1 jt-fav. 8 ran 5l, 2l M H Easterby Tote £3.50, £1.60, £2.20, £1.90 DF £14.70. CSF £27.41 Tricast. £79.36

Placepot: £45.80, Quadpot: £19.50.

Chepstow

1.00 1, Bells Life (16-1), 2, New Co (11-1), 3, Ostows (11-1). Idiot's Lady 15-8 fav (pu). 13 ran NR Amazon Express, The Widger Man, Who Is Equiname.

RICHARD EVANS

Nap: HOODWINKER
(1.45 Ludlow)
Next best: Tony's Mist
(12.45 Ludlow)

1.30 1, Greenhil Tare Away (3-1), 2, General Wolfe (15-8 fav); 3, Vicompt De Valmont (9-1). 9 ran

2.05 1, Grange Brake (12-1), 2, Bradbury Star (2-1) Master Oats 4-9 fav. 3 ran. NR Natabelle

2.40 1, Cavalero (20-1), 2, Manolete (4-1 fav), 3, Desert President (13-2) 10 ran

3.10 1, Call It A Day (9-4); 2, Bond Jnr (15-8 fav); 3, Bally Clover (16-1) 8 ran.

3.45 1, Potentiate (6-1); 2, Lord Rooble (15-2), 3, Lottery Ticket (5-1), Nahla 2-1 fav (f). 14 ran. NR Granby Bell, Thewellsteps

Towcester

12.25 1, Bucket Of Gold (7-2 fav), 2, Ballyea Boy (5-1), 3, Now We Know (12-1). 16 ran

12.55 1, Arctic Life (20-1); 2, Eulogy (11-2), 3, Mister Blake (16-1) Strong John 3-1 fav. 10 ran

1.25 1, Denver Bay (4-1); 2, Dr Rocket (7-1), 3, Mine's An Ace (5-1) Santorius 3-1 fav. 6 ran NR: Petmar

1.55 1, Buckhouse Boy (6-4 fav), 2, Crano Hill (3-1); 3, Ask Mo Kindly (25-1) 15 ran.

2.30 1, Maamur (11-4), 2, Countess Voruschka (16-1), 3, Suffolk Reed (10-1) Florida Sky 2-1 fav 13 ran.

3.05 1, Grunge (20-1), 2, Singlesole (20-1); 3, Wreckless Man (12-1); 4, Try Next Door (33-1) Putlaugh 13-2 jt-fav 17 ran.

3.35 1, Frys No Fool (7-1); 2, Moon Devil (33-1); 3, Carole's Crusader (7-11 Dutch Aunsie 4-1 jt-fav. 18 ran.

Wetherby

12.40 1, Chopwell Curtains (Evens fav), 2, Cavina (4-1), 3, Tilly (11-1) 18 ran

1.10 1, Master Boston (100-30 fav), 2, Valiant Warrior (11-2), 3, Beachy Head (7-2). 6 ran

1.40 1, Kaltak (11-1); 2, Little Bromley (4-1), 3, Novan (12-1) Shan-Ashka 11-4 fav (f) 10 ran.

2.10 1, Cumbrian Challenge (6-4 fav), 2, Spanish Light (3-1); 3, Tudor Follow (50-1) 8 ran

2.20 1, Bella's Boy (33-1); 2, Ballos (14-1); 3, Uoni (11-4) Chalcuchima 6-4 fav. 10 ran

2.55 1, River Keen (8-1), 2, Sea Victor (10-1); 3, Far Ahead (5-1) Mistinguett 100-30 fav 12 ran.

3.25 1, Prince Of Andros (7-2); 2, Verzen (14-1); 3, Tarawa (9-2). Caples 5-2 fav 12 ran NR: Nijo

3.55 1, Lady Eclat (14-1); 2, Quinntessa (33-1); 3, Carmosa (2-1) Vera's First 13-8 fav. 13 ran

4.25 1, Bajan Frontier (16-1), 2, Matthew David (6-1); 3, Superbil (12-1), Al Shuail 3-1 fav. 13 ran

4.55 1, Tart (6-5 fav); 2, Beth Knight (20-1), 3, Filmore West (6-1) 9 ran

5.25 1, Sand Star (5-1), 2, Fiery Footsteps (25-1); 3, David James' Girl (2-1 fav) 12 ran.

Jackpot: not won (pool of £16,178.99 carried forward to Ludlow today).

Placepot: £381.20. Quadpot: £126.70.

LUDLOW

THUNDERER

12.45 TONY'S MIST (nap). 1.15 Persian Tactics. 1.45 Hoodwinker. 2.15 Jason's Boy. 2.45 Green's Fair. 3.15 Class Of Ninetytwo. 3.45 Callermish Dan.

GOING: GOOD TO FIRM SIS

12.45 CULMINGTON NOVICES CLAIMING HURDLE
(£2,304: 2m) (16 runners)

101			RAINBOW ROAD 533F M Pipe 4-11-9	D Bridgwater —
102		30-3	DOUBLE JEOPARDY 140F (BF) J White 4-11-3	A P McCoy 90
103		-14U	EXCLUSION 8 (CD,BF,F) J Hetherton 6-10-13	G Tormey (3) 69
104		5	MASKED MARTIN 20 P Bedford 4-10-13	S Burrough —
105		0	GREEK GOLD 6 D Nicholls 5-10-11	S Masson —
106			LATE SHIFT 907F (B) T George 4-10-11	D Bentley —
107		0-0	THE GAUFFER 32 (B) C Nash 4-10-11	T Jenks —
108		2451	STAC-POLLADH 11 (D,F) K Bailey 5-10-10	T J Murphy (3) 98
109		44D0	TONY'S MIST 19 J Bradley 5-10-9	R Johnson (5) 88
110		P	WOODLANDS ENERGY 21 P Pritchard 4-10-8	R Davis —
111		P/PP	POSSOM PICKER 18 C Popham 5-10-7	T Dascombe (5) —
112		-26B	MUSICAL VOCATION 7 (V) B Preece 4-10-6	G Hogan (3) —
113		PP-0	PACIFIC SPIRIT 10 M Tate 5-10-6	P McLoughlin —
114		0	ATHENIAN ALLIANCE 10 J Bradley 6-10-4	Mr M Daly (7) —
115		5610	SAFE SECRET 11 (F) R Bretherton 4-10-4	C Llewellyn 83
116		-PPP	CELTIC WIND 5 T Morton 9-10-2	Mr R Thornton (7) —

3-1 Rainbow Road, 7-2 Stac-Pollaidh, 6-1 Exclusion, Tony's Mist, 7-1 Double Jeopardy, 12-1 Safe Secret, 14-1 Late Shift, 20-1 others

1.15 STOKESAY NOVICES CHASE (£2,814: 2m) (7)

201		21U2	BONE SETTER 9 (G,S) S Mellor 5-11-7	N Mann 69
202		2312	PERSIAN TACTICS 9 (B,D,F,G,S) K Bailey 6-11-7	J Magee (3) 95
203		-552	MUST BE MAGICAL 14 (F,S) P Bradley 7-11-0	A P McCoy 98
204		-255	NADIAD 14 (B,F,G) D McCain 9-11-0	D McCain 93
205		3435	ROYAL PRINT 26 (F,G,S) W Marr 6-11-0	M Richards —
206		0-3F	OUR NIKKI 14 P Rodford 5-10-9	S Burrough 80
207		554-	SENSE OF VALUE 225 (F,S) J Smith 6-10-9	R Davis —

7-4 Bone Setter, 3-1 Persian Tactics, 9-2 Royal Print, 5-1 Must Be Magical, 8-1 Sense Of Value, 10-1 Nadiad, 20-1 Our Nikki

1.45 BIRCHER NOVICES HANDICAP HURDLE
(£2,276: 2m 5f 110yd) (14)

301		5-U2	THROWER 23 B Preece 4-11-10	G Hogan (3) 88
302		0D-5	THE WHOLE HOG 24 (BF) K Bailey 6-11-7	J Osborne 87
303		2P-P	ROSIE-B 22 R Stronge 5-11-5	R Stronge 90
304		2-31	HOODWINKER 9 (G) W Jenks 6-11-4	T Jenks 88
305		1222	SUPERWICK 11 (S) W Muir 4-10-13	M Richards 91
306		/53-	BELMORE ROCK 259 M Pipe 8-10-13	D Bridgwater 86
307		-0P3	ST KITTS 11 W G M Turner 4-10-11	A P McCoy 90
308		FF3-	BALLYRANEBOW 222P G Yardley 7-10-10	Mr R Thornton (7) —
309		0-41	SEE YOU ALWAYS 25 (F) G Charles-Jones 5-10-3	W McFarland 91
310		-052	WIDGE WONDER 9 M Bradstock 5-10-3	P Holley 88
311		P510	LAJADHAI 18 (CD,F) N Bishop 6-10-2	L Harvey 69
312		40-0	FLYING IMP 12 R Hollinshead 4-10-1	M W Marbin (7) —
313		-050	RADIO CAROLINE 37 M Tate 7-10-0	R Massey (5) 78
314		PPY0	CASTLE WARRIOR 22 L Grassick 8-10-0	Mr J Grassick —

9-2 Hoodwinker, 5-1 Thrower, Supersnick, 6-1 Belmore Rock, 7-1 The Whole Hog, 8-1 Widge Wonder, 10-1 St Kitts. 14-1 others.

Blinkered first time

EDINBURGH: 3.30 Tatio Mario LUDLOW: 12.45 Late Shift, Musical Vocation, The Gauffer. 1.15 Nadiad,

Midlands combine strength and astuteness in handsome victory



Telea, left, the Western Samoan wing, surges on despite the attempts of Phillips and Rodber to halt him during the Midlands' victory at Welford Road. Photograph: Ian Stewart

Rodber follows the middle course

Midlands.....40
Western Samoans 19

BY DAVID HANDS
RUGBY CORRESPONDENT

MIDLANDERS, it seems, do not go in for the kind of hyperbole that has been the common currency in English rugby all year. So it was a pleasure at Welford Road on Saturday to see a side combining elements of traditional English strength with a taste for adventure and coming away with a well-deserved win.

It is far too easy to become imbued with alien concepts and forget those that suit the national character: there is nothing intrinsically wrong with playing a strong set piece, or using proven qualities at ruck and maul, and if skill levels or running lines are at best conservative, it seems folly to pretend that the English game is riddled with Gallic — or even South-Sea island — flair.

The Midlands selectors took a look at their opponents, a look at their own strengths which combined the qualities of two outstanding club sides, Leicester and Northampton, gave themselves three training nights in which to prepare and came up with a sensible formula that relied heavily on the judgment of the two young half backs, Dawson and Grayson. Their reward was a mature display which suggested that Dawson, in particular, has returned to the level of play that made him so strong an international candidate two years ago.

Granted the Western Samoans, approaching the end of a long and at times thoroughly dispiriting year in which half their international XV has left them, are finding this tour hard. There are no concessions on the English leg and, in a wet winter, they do not have the depth of experience they would wish; eight of their players on Saturday had appeared against London three days earlier and they are tiring.

In every match they face players with strong individual and collective ambitions. Tim Rodber, the Midlands captain, put it graphically: "We wanted to inflict a win on the Samoans, to intimidate them physically a bit and let them know what divisional rugby is all about," he said. "In the first half we varied the game well, quick rucks, driving mauls, with the half backs masterminding the whole thing, and they couldn't live with us."

That is part and parcel, too, of Rodber's campaign of rehabilitation after not only a disappointing appearance against South Africa but the World Cup last summer. He feels the edge is missing from his game, playing second-division rugby. That Rodber should have scored the first of his team's five tries will have been a source of pleasure, particularly since it came from such a neat back row-scrum half move.

Nor should the fact that two of those tries were penalty tries, awarded when the Samoans' scrum collapsed on its line, obscure the worth of the work that preceded them; wishing for the moon will not invest English midfield players with the penetrative skills that, with a couple of obvious exceptions, they generally lack, therefore they must find other ways of scoring.

Here they did so with support of high quality from Back — in front of the England selectors who are expected to name on Wednesday their XV to play the Samoans at Twickenham on December 16, and who were vocally reminded by the 8,100 crowd about the local hero, Dean Richards — Rodber and the entire front row. Behind them, Dawson varied his game astutely; his wings might have made more of his hanging kicks, his speed off the mark takes him over the gain-line and his passing is good.

All he needs now is games of the highest calibre so that his decision-making comes under greater pressure than is commonplace in the second division. The same is true for Allen, in the centre, who has scored a hatful of tries for Northampton but suddenly came up against a swift, abrasive defence.

The Midlands led 23-0 at the interval. The game having gone, Bryan Williams, the Samoans' coach, invited them at least to win the second half, which they did; but not before Rodber had sent Allen over and Grayson had held up the ball beautifully for Dawson to loop round and into the corner.

In the final quarter the Midlands became more ragged and the Samoan backs took their toll, none better than Filemu and his two centres, Tuigamala and Vaega. Their delightful running and changes of direction at pace exposed the Midlands and produced three highly-acclaimed tries, but now that the Midlands have shown the way, their final fortnight will become no easier.

SCORERS: Midlands: Tries: Rodber, Allen, Dawson, penalty tries (2) Conversions: Grayson (3) Penalty goals: Grayson (3) Western Samoans: Tries: Bunwhistle, Telea, Vaega Conversions: Kellett (2).
MIDLANDS: J Guscriff (Rugby Lions); R Subbiani (Bedford), M Allen (Northampton), B Whetstone (Bedford), H Thomeycroft (Northampton), P Grayson (Northampton), M Dawson (Northampton), G Rowntree (Leicester), R Cockerill (Leicester), D Garforth (Leicester), T Rodber (Northampton, captain), J Phillips (Northampton), M Bayfield (Northampton), N Back (Leicester), C Tarbuck (Leicester). Subbians replaced by A Smallwood (Nottingham, 27min)
WESTERN SAMOANS: H Patu, B Lima, T Vaega, F Tuigamala, A Telea, D Kellett, J Fiemu, M Mika, O Maraeuau, P Fatialofa, S Kaeta, M Berkenstie, L Falaniko, S Vaifale, P Lam (captain)
Referee: C Thomas (Wales).

King emphasises potential

London.....11
South West.....26

BY JOHN HOPKINS

IF THE only achievement of the CIS divisional championship this season has been to unearth Alex King, the South West stand-off half, then it will have been a worthwhile tournament. In this fairly meaningless match, which resulted in London taking the wooden spoon, the performance of King, who has leapt from rugby for Bristol University to a place in the England A team against Western Samoa a week tomorrow and the muted performance of Mick Watson were just about all there was to note.

Watson is big, strong and was not interested in this, his third game in eight days and one in which he had to play in the second row. King, on the other hand, ran with the exuberance of youth. He is right-handed and left-footed, with electric pace off the mark, an eye for an opening and an acute sense of when to pass.

King, studying economics and accounting, realises that he needs to be stronger. He wants to add a half-stone to his slight frame. "I have a lot to do," King said. "My drop-outs need improving and so does my decision-making."

Full results and league tables ... Page 32

Watson talked and pointed a lot, occasionally disagreeing with the referee. He stood off at almost every ruck and maul and moved serenely from breakdown to breakdown.

He did not look interested. It was strange to see such a competitive player in such a light.

If Watson was only occasionally involved in play, King was hardly ever out of it. When his voracious appetite was combined with the determined running with the ball of Richard Hill, who scored two tries, the sinuous attacking qualities of Paul Hull, and the robustness of Greening, who, like King, seems to be full of youthful exuberance, it is clear why London were outplayed. After narrowly losing to the Western Samoans last Wednesday, they could hardly raise a gallop three days later.

SCORERS: London: Try: Allison. Penalty goals: Gregory (2) South West: Tries: Hill (2), Hull. Conversion: Hull. Penalty goals: Hull (2), King
LONDON: J Ufton (Wasps), D O'Leary (Harlequins), N Greenstock (Wasps), L Scrace (Wasps), S Roiser (Wasps); G Gregory (Wasps), A Gomarsall (Wasps); S Brown (Harlequins), S Mitchell (Harlequins), G Holmes (Saracens), G Allison (Harlequins), M Watson (Harlequins), M Langley (Saracens), M White (Wasps); A Diprose (Saracens, captain) Greenstock replaced by S Ravenscroft (Saracens, 49min). Roiser replaced by C Braithwaite (Wasps, 81)
SOUTH WEST: P Hull (Bristol, captain); N Beal (Northampton), S Enoch (Pontypridd), F Waters (Bristol University), P Holford (Gloucester); A King (Bristol University), B Fenley (Gloucester); T Windo (Gloucester), P Greening (Gloucester), D Crompton (Bath), P Glanville (Gloucester), G Archer (Bristol), C Yandell (Saracens), R Hill (Saracens), E Rollitt (Bristol). Glanville replaced by R Fidler (Gloucester, 78).
Referee: I Ramage (Scotland)

No doubts about Thomas

Llanelli.....10
Swansea.....3

BY GERALD DAVIES

COLLECTIVE will is the thing in rugby union. There is a train of thought that suggests for the good of the team and its spirit a faceless anonymity should prevail; no player should emerge from the group and rise above it. Note the reluctance of managers and coaches to herald the distinctive contribution of the one man.

Yet personality can be far more potent than teamwork. There was a collective will among the forwards at Stradey Park on Saturday, but they fluffed their part and it was left to the single player to lift the level of this hard, gruelling but very ordinary match. Justin Thomas rose rose above the steamy mêlées to show his shining class.

The general will was towards wrongdoing and attempts to create little. Heavyweight bodies ended up in awkward heaps. It was utterly predictable and incompetent.

Thirty-seven penalties were awarded which arose largely from these unsightly pile-ups. Twenty-two of them went Llanelli's way, 15 to Swansea. These piles were hardly recognisable as rucks or mauls. Perhaps it had something to do with the weather. So damp and miserable, the conditions underfoot were difficult, the ball greasy.

Teamwork, then, did not add up to much. But it is personality that is the real stuff of sport. Searching for individuals, there was the lightness of touch that attended everything Robert Jones did at scrum half. McBryde was also quite a tyro as hooker for the home team.

But, rising above even these was the effervescent talent of Thomas, the home team's full back. He drew attention from the moment, in the first half, when he fell on the ball underneath his own posts, the steam of opposing players close to his nostrils. He got up again in one movement, shrugged off the grasping attention of tacklers and ran freely out of defence. It was marvellous stuff.

Slight of frame, he is confident and brave under the high ball, with the gift of fine hands and the good centre three-quarter's eye for a break. He has also the swiftness to cause many wings to ponder whether they would be better employed elsewhere. In his first year since leaving the Cardiff Institute, Thomas is a natural talent who is going to brighten many a Saturday afternoon.

But, sadly, there was not much else to admire.

SCORERS: Llanelli: Try: Williams Conversion: McCarthy Penalty goals: McCarthy (2), Swansea: Penalty goals: Williams.
LLANELLI: J Thomas, I Evans, N Boobyer, M Wintle, W Proctor; M McCarthy, R Moon; R Evans, R McBryde, S John, P Morris, P Davies, P Jones, O Lloyd, J Williams.
SWANSEA: A Flowers, S Davies, M Taylor, D Weatherley, R Boobyer; A Williams, R Jones; K Colclough, G Jenkins, R Shaw, R Appleyard, S Moore, A Moore, A Reynolds, C Charvis.
Referee: T Rowlands (Treorchy)

Students' spirit unbroken despite drubbing

Cambridge Univ.....15
Leicester.....44

BY BRYAN STILES

THIS five-try drubbing for Cambridge might have hurt the collective pride of the team but it did little to dispel the image of them running out for the Varsity match at Twickenham with the unwanted tag of favourites hanging around their necks. "It is almost obligatory for them to lose on their last match before they meet Oxford," one seasoned Grange Road follower insisted.

This heavy defeat in their last game before Twickenham will not fool Oxford into thinking their rivals have lost their touch. After all, they were playing one of the premier club teams in England, whose goalkicker, John Liley, collected points every time he launched the ball towards the uprights. His unblemished record with seven kicks brought him the maximum 16 points.

But the spirit that carried Cambridge to wins over the Western Samoans and Steele-Bodger's XV in their two previous games, flowered colourfully in the second half.

These past three strenuous games have, however, taken a toll and were probably the cause of lapses in concentration and the reason for a spate of badly executed tackles when strength began to ooze away in the second half.

Cambridge missed the guiding hand of Cottrell, their New Zealand captain, who is nursing a twisted knee. Without his skills, Cambridge charged about with little purpose before the interval.

In the first half, Leicester, instead of calming things down with steady, territory-winning kicks, joined in the frenzy and they, too, lost their pattern.

The frenetic activity brought the students only three points — a penalty by Kennedy — by half-time and Leicester mustered two penalties by Liley and a converted try by Kardooni.

The points began to flow in the second half. Grant drove over from the back of a lineout. Harris dropped a goal and Jelley barged over for a try.

Then came the first of Cambridge's tries. The move swept in from halfway with Earnshaw running beautifully to send in Casado. Tries by Hackney and Kardooni extended Leicester's lead again, but Singer rounded things off with another breakaway try.

SCORERS: Cambridge University: Tries: Casado, Singer. Conversion: Kennedy Penalty goal: Kennedy
Leicester: Tries: Kardooni (2), Grant, Jelley, Hackney Conversions: Liley (5). Penalty goals: Liley (2). Dropped goal: Harris.
CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY: M Singer (Wycliffe Coll and Homerton), D Casado (Ampleforth and St Edmund's), D Moore (Ballymena Academy and Trinity Hall), * A Spencer (Priestley Sixth Form and St John's), S Sexton (Dublin HS and Hughes Hall); * A Kennedy (Fettes and St John's), D Masten (Rendcomb and St Edmund's), * L Mooney (St Boniface's Coll, Plymouth and Hughes Hall), J Evans (Emmanuel GS, Swansea and Homerton), N Holgate (Armthorpe and Robinson), S Surridge (St Kentigern, Auckland and Wolfson), * R Brimley (QEGS, Wakefield and St Edmund's), C Simpson (Soham VC and Homerton), R Earnshaw (Yarm and St John's), J Cooke (Newington Coll, Sydney and St Edmund's). Mooney replaced by J Stevenson (Horsforth School and Jesus, 40min).
* denotes a Blue
LEICESTER: J Liley; S Hackney, L Delaney, R Chellins, T Reynolds; J Harris, A Kardooni; D Jelley, D West, J Wingham, O Wingham, P Grant, R Field, W Johnson, W Drake-Lee
Referee: G Hughes (Manchester).

Injuries damage Oxford's hopes of cohesion

Oxford University.....14
Sydney University....26

BY ALISON KERVIN

PLAYERS and coaches insist that it is impossible to predict with certainty the outcome of the Varsity match. Form is no guide and being branded underdogs can often be the first step towards victory. But surely, this year, only the bravest of supporters would put their money on Oxford University on Saturday's evidence.

The defeat by Sydney University, coming as it did in the wake of Cambridge's triumph over Western Samoa, highlighted the apparent gulf between the sides. Oxford have just over a week to try to get things right and their eternally optimistic coach, Lynn Evans, knows the size of the task ahead of them.

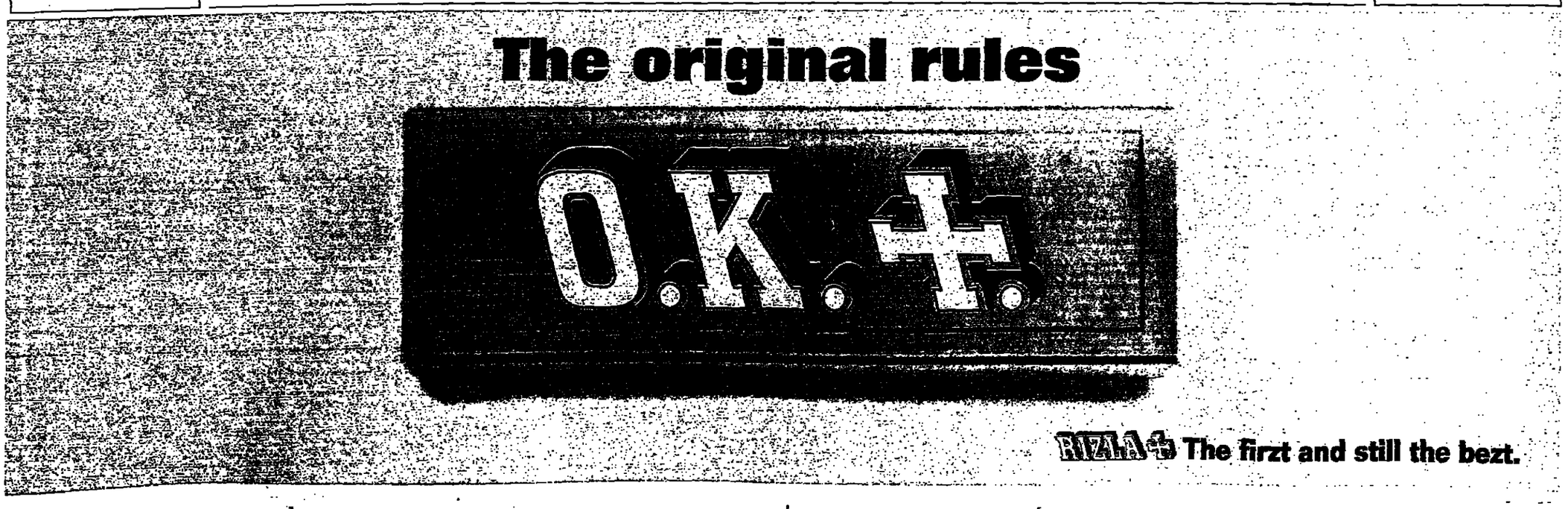
"Oxford's weakness is that we don't produce quick enough ball," Evans said. "We have talented backs that didn't have the chance to play. Sydney were very tenacious, they tackled like fury. They edged extremely close to the advantage line, like Cambridge will do, so it was good practice for what we will face at Twickenham.

"If we are going to beat Cambridge, we need our big players to have big days — they will make the difference. The match before the University game is always fraught with tension, it is always difficult to get cohesion and we have been disrupted by injuries, which hasn't helped. Also, selection in key positions has been difficult. But we will dig deep when we go to Twickenham. We have got a lot of fine tuning to do now, but we are still in with a chance."

The team's lack of cohesion was demonstrated by Saturday's team list. Four changes were made before kick-off, and five during the match, some due to injuries carried into the game.

Sydney dominated the first half, scoring a try and two penalty goals to Oxford's lone penalty. In the second half, Oxford were stronger, but managed just one try, from McCarthy, after the Oxford pack rolled a maul over the Sydney line. Their acting captain, Humphreys, one of the men they will be relying on at Twickenham, kicked three penalties.

SCORERS: Oxford University: Try: McCarthy. Penalty goals: Humphreys (3) Sydney University: Tries: Kinnaburgh, Cocks, Harvey. Conversion: Harvey. Penalty goals: Harvey (3)
OXFORD UNIVERSITY: P du Preez (Diocesan Coll, Cape Town and Keble); S Rush (Harrow and Mansfield), D de Bruyn (Diocesan Coll, Cape Town and Keble), J Riordet (Lycee La Karst and Mansfield), N Booth (Lytham St Anne's HS and Worcester); D Humphreys (Ballymena Academy and St Cross), C Jones (Easthampstead Park, Wokingham and University); C Norton (St Andrew's Coll, Grahamstown and Keble), K Svoboda (Centennial Sch, Bellevile and Templeton), D Penney (Mount Pearl HS, Newfoundland and Wolfson), M Reilly (St Gerard's, Bray and St Anne's), C Smith (RGS, Worcester and Keble), * P Coveney (Clongowes Wood Coll, Dublin and Templeton), C McCarthy (St Mary's Coll, Dublin and Templeton), * R Yeabsley (Haberdashers' Aske's and Keble), Reilly replaced by M Onsler (King's, Canterbury and Christ Church, 30min) Jones replaced by M Butler (King Edward VI, Lichfield and St Edmund Hall, 42) Riordet replaced by M Mermagen (St Bartholomew's, Newbury and Keble, 62). Onsler replaced by J Britton (Wellington College and New, 83) Du Preez replaced by J Sackree (Wisbech GS and St Edmund Hall, 87)
* denotes a Blue.
SYDNEY UNIVERSITY: C McElhone; J Kinnaburgh, A Prior, C Murray, N Hall; O Harvey, B Miller; H Scammell, M Collard, M L'Huillier, N Cocks, M Avery, T Eisenhauer, K Bonney, R Cheval.
Referee: S Kent (Liverpool)



FOR THE RECORD

ATHLETICS

ALNWICK CASTLE, Northumberland: European cross country championships: **Men** (9km): 1, P Guerra (Por) 26min 40sec; 2, A Gomez (Sp) 26 48, 3, A Pearson (GB) 26:47; 4, K Cullen (GB) 26.48; 5, M Esseid (Fr) 26:52; 6, J Brown 26:56 Teams: 1, Spain 32pts, 2, Portugal 37; 3, Great Britain 58; 7, Ireland 132. **Women** (4.5km): 1, A Sandell (Fin) 13min 52sec; 2, S Weglund (Swe) 14 07; 3, N Bellkova (Russ) 14 09; 4, E Fidasof (Rom) 14:10; 5, A Zhilyaeva (Russ) 14:17, 6, A Palluy-Sergent (Fr) 14:18; 7, S Delassaunty (Ire) 14:19, 10, E Talbot (GB) 14:23 Teams: 1, Russia 20pts; 2, Romania 23; 3, France 41; 7, Great Britain 65; 9, Ireland 106.

PUTNEY VALE: University match: Men (7.5 miles): 1, D Naylor (Cambridge) 40min 18secs; 2, J Fitzsimmons (Cambridge) 40:27; 3, D Legate (Cambridge) 40:32; 4, D Kirk (Oxford) 40:38, 5, J Jones (Cambridge) 40:42 Teams: 1, Cambridge 26pts, 2, Oxford 54 Women (3.5 miles): 1, N Lynch (Oxford) 19:47; 2, S Cook (Oxford) 20:07; 3, H-M Chung (Oxford) 20:20; 4, B Gray (Cambridge) 20:35; 5, M Senior (Cambridge) 20:49. Team: 1, Oxford 12pts; 2, Cambridge 25.

MACAU: International marathon: Men: 1, H Crisostomo (Por) 2hr 15min 39sec; 2, J Modiga (SA) 2:16:13, 3, V Rotov (Belo) 2:16:20; 4, G Hinhui (China) 2:16:56; 5, Dube (Eth) 2:17.04. Women: 1, Li Yemei (China) 2:40 47; 2, L Clayton (Aus) 2:41:09, 3, K Kuza (Pol) 2 41.43, 4, Wu Mei (China) 2:47:01: 5, Lu Jing (China) 2:48 11

COSFORD: Inter-area match: Men: 6 miles: 1, J Loader (British Univ) 30min 2sec; 2, A Tarry (Midlands) 30:07, 3, J Moorhouse (North) 30.11. Teams: 1, Midlands 54pts, 2, North of England 57; 3, British Universities 118 **Women:** 3 miles: 1, S Barbour (Midlands) 24.04, 2, J Holt (North) 24:34; 3, J Kenyon (North) 24 37 Teams: 1, North of England 17, 2, Midlands 35, 3, Wales 41

SHIREBROOK, Derbyshire: English Schools Cross Country Cup: Boys: Intermediates: 1, D Carthy (Ivybridge) 13min 25sec; 2, G Macey (Bellemoor, Southampton) 13.27; 3, W Gouldie (Calday Grange, West Kirby) 13.29; 4, T Laurie (Bellemoor) 13.33; 5, M Brear (Ermysted's, S Ripon) 13 44. Team: 1, St Anselm's Wirral 77pts, 2, Calday Grange 77, 3, Colfox, Bridport 109 Juniors: 1, G Coppin (Barking Abbey) 13min 17sec; 2, K Jackson (St Ambrose College, Altrincham) 12.29; 3, M Lole (Woodlands, Coventry) 12.31 Team: 1, All Hallows, Macclesfield Girls: **Intermediates:** 1, J Swallow (Cooper's Company and Coburn, Upminster) 11min 32sec; 2, L Vernon (St Hilda's, Liverpool) 12.06, 3, J Brown (Brookhill Park, Hyrtne) 123.21; 4, G Fearn (St Albans) 12.29; 5, K Taylor (Kendrewath) 148 Juniors: 1, S Reeve (Southend) 9min 22sec; 2, L Whittaker (Weaversham, Northwich) 9 34; 3, L Puddle (Millfield) 9 42. Team: Weaversham

PARLIAMENT HILL FIELDS: London University Championships: Men: 8.5 miles: 1, J Guest (Royal Holloway and Bedford New College) 34:48; 2, P Northrop (University College) 36.18, 3, D Fallon (University College) 37:17 Teams: 1, Royal Holloway and Bedford New College 39; 2, Imperial College 48; 3, University College 58 **Women:** 3.5 miles: 1, E Kipling (Imperial College) 28 47; 2, E Collins (Imperial College) 29:00, 3, K Macdonald (St Mary's Hospital) 29:20 Teams: 1, Imperial College 11; 2, Royal Holloway and Bedford College 18

BADMINTON

SINGAPORE: World Grand Prix: Semi-finals: **Men: Singles:** J Suprianto (Indo) bt Ong Ewe Hock (Malay) 15-8, 15-11; A Wirananta (Indo) bt R Sidek (Malay) 18-17, 15-7. **Women: Singles:** Ye Zhaoying (China) bt C Martin (Den) 11-1, 11-2; Lim Xiaoqing (Swe) bt Wang Chen (China) 11-6, 11-2.

BASKETBALL

NATIONAL BASKETBALL ASSOCIATION (NBA): Detroit 104 Atlanta 98; New Jersey 79 Cleveland 78; New York 94 Philadelphia 85; Washington 135 Boston 107; Houston 113 Charlotte 98, San Antonio 101 Phoenix 93; Denver 109 Minnesota 105; Golden State 100 Indiana 97; Chicago 104 LA Clippers 98; Sacramento 109 Orlando 106.

BUDWEISER LEAGUE: Leicester 80 Thames Valley 93, Newcastle 79 Leopards 82; Birmingham 108 Hemel 75, Worthing 88 Derby 86.

BOBSLEIGHING

WINTERBERG, Germany: World Cup: Two-man event: 1, Germany II 1min 52.50sec; 2, Germany I 1:52.80; 3, Canada I 1:52 85, 4, Switzerland I 1:53.06; 5, Canada II 1:53.16. Leading individual World Cup standings: 1, Dosthaler (Ger) 70pts; 2, Lueders (Can) 68. 3, Langen (Ger) 66.

BOWLS

YETTON TROPHY: Second round: Thornaby 100 Gt Aycliffe 72; Darlington 87 Houghton 72; Blackpool NH 99 Blackpool B 63; York A 100 Hull A 71; Boston 82 Grantham 74; Northampton 86 Lawson Pk 75; County A 103 Norfolk 53; North Walsham 90 Roundwood 63; Sole B 73 Beccles 68, Essex A 86 Colchester 73; Chesthunt 101 Ilford 72; Pickletts L 89 Mansfield 66; Dasborough 73 Riverain 71; Herts 70 Stevenage 63 Handy C 82 Cherwell 81 Chipping N 90 Malvern H 67 King George 103 Mole V 60, Croydon A 107 Croydon B 51; Sutton 96 Cyphers 57; Wey V 86 W Berks 75; Egham A 70 Rushmoore 92; Longmeadow 87 Egham B 91; Folkstone 109 Mote Pk 68, Sevenoaks 79 Royal Tunbridge W 76; King Alfred 78 Egerton Pk 72; Preston 83 Worthing Pav 60; Eastbourne 80 Salasse 73; Havant 96 Alberley B 84, E Dorset B 85 Dolphin B 67; E Dorset A 90 Bridpod 75; Nailsea 80 Bristol 66, Clevedon 70 Moorrakers 68; Victoria (Street) 76 Ilminster 77; Yeovil 85 Taunton D 72 Exonia 89 Isca 74; Plymouth CS 90 Newquay 89

BOXING

KING'S HALL, Belfast: World Boxing Council bantamweight championship (12rds): Wayne McCullough (Ire, holder) bt Johnny Bredahl (Den) rsc 8th World Boxing Organization inter-continental light-middleweight championship (12rds) Adrian Dodson (Islington, holder) bt Craig Snyder (US) rsc 8th Undercard: Heavyweight (4rds): Gerd Ctnes (Nor) bt Lee Williams (Cardiff) ko 1st Cruiserweight (6rds): Darren Corbett (Ire) bt Bobbi Jo Edwards (Manchester) pts. Super-middleweight (6rds): Frederic Alvarez (Swe) bt Mark Dawson (Burton) ret 6th. Welterweight (6 rds): Frank Olson (Den) bt George Wilson (Camberwell) pts; Neil Sinclair (Ire) bt Sean Coleman (Birmingham) ret 1st. Lightweight (4rds): Eamonn Brolly (Ire) bt Mark O'Callaghan (Tunbridge Wells) rsc 3rd. Super-bantamweight (10rds): Jose Bueno (Mex) bt Mario Diaz (US) rsc 4th. Super-bantamweight (4rds): Frankie Slane (Ire) bt Marty Chestnut (Birmingham) pts.

LAS VEGAS: World Boxing Council super-featherweight championship: A Nelson (Ghana) bt G Ruelas (US, holder) rsc 5th. **BANGKOK:** World Boxing Authority mini-flyweight championship: N Alvarez (Nicaragua) bt Chana Por Pao-In (Thai, holder) pts

CRICKET

Second Test match

England A v Pakistan A

RAWALPINDI (fourth day of five): England A, with eight first-innings wickets in hand, are 67 runs ahead of Pakistan A

PAKISTAN A: First Innings

Shakeel Ahmed c Gallan b Headley	62
Shahid Anwar c Piper b Salisbury	13
Saeed Azad c and b Salisbury	10
*Asif Mujtaba c Piper b Headley	24
Manzoor Akhtar c Gallan b Headley	13
Mazhar Qayyum lbw b Headley	17
†Wasim Yousufi c Piper b Headley	9
Athar Laq c Hussain b Salisbury	0
Anwar Ali b Headley	20
Salman Fazal c Piper b Munton	17
Mohammad Zahid not out	10
Extras (b 2, lb 6, nb 11)	19
Total	214

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-45, 2-75, 3-114, 4-132, 5-139, 6-158, 7-159, 8-165, 9-185.

BOWLING: Headley 32-6-73-6; Munton 22.5-9-25-1; White 8-1-29-0; Salisbury 31-6-76-3; Slamp 2-0-3-0.

ENGLAND A: First Innings

N V Knight lbw b Athar	0
J E R Gallan not out	146
I D K Salisbury c Shahid b Mohammad	86
*N Hussain not out	40
Extras (b 3, lb 4, nb 2)	9
Total (2 wkts)	281

J C Pooley, R C Irani, C White, †K J Piper, D W Headley, T A Munton and R D Stemp to bat.

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-2, 2-199

BOWLING: Athar Laq 22-4-55-1; Mohammad Zahid 17 2-3-69-1, Anwar Ali 11-0-55-0; Salman Fazal 23-7-37-0; Asif Mujtaba 3-0-9-0, Manzoor Akhtar 18-3-49-0

Umpires: Mahboob Shah and Saddique Khan.

CYCLING

CYCLO-CROSS: Braunstone Park, Leicester: National Trophy: Third round (10.5 miles): 1, N Craig (Diamond Back) 58min 23sec; 2, R Hammond (Sth Western RC) at 33sec; 3, B Clarke (Raleigh) at 1:05. Standings: 1, B Clarke 134 pts; 2, Craig 114; 3, S Knight 94, Brentwood Park, Essex: Shaftesbury CC: 12 miles: 1, M Batsford (Glade CC) 1:05:55; 2, S Kennett (Shelford RT) at 1:01; 3, M Carter (unatt) at 3:21 Ashton Court, Bristol: Bristol RC: 9.5 miles: 1, T Locke (Team Bike Bristol) 51:20; 2 P Sidebottom (Team SN16) at 2:10; 3, G Clarke (Team SN16) at 2:25

DARTS

EARL'S COURT, London: World Masters: Finals: Men: E Clarke (Sal) bt R Burnett (Wales) 3-0 Women: S Coldough (Middx) bt S Bromberg (US) 3-1.

FIVES

ST PAUL'S SCHOOL: RFA National Singles Championship: First round: W Enstone bt M Austin 15-2, 15-5; I Purvis bt D Fox 15-10, 15-8, J Beswick bt N Butterfield 15-1, 15-2; I Fuller bt P d'Ancona 15-1, 15-5, R Carr bt S Watson 15-0, 15-1, H Buchanan wo P Breslin; B Hanson bt J Hughes 15-9, 15-9; N Roberts bt P Davey 15-7, 15-5. Quarter-finals: Enstone bt Purves 15-1, 15-3; Fuller bt Beswick 15-4, 15-10; Carr bt Buchanan 15-10, 15-6; Roberts bt Hanton 15-7, 15-13. Semi-finals: Enstone bt Fuller 15-2, 15-7; Roberts bt Carr 15-11, 5-15, 15-7. Final: Enstone bt Roberts 15-8, 15-9.

GOLF

SUN CITY, South Africa: Men's million dollar challenge: Final round scores: 276: C Pavin (US) 69, 72, 69, 66 281: N Price (Zim) 71, 67, 72, 71. 283: B Langer (Ger) 72, 69, 71, 71 284: S Torrance (GB) 69, 73, 70, 72. 287: T Lehman (US) 71, 70, 73, 73 289: D Frost (SA) 74, 76, 71, 68. 291: N Faldo (GB) 72, 78, 69, 72; C Rocca (It) 76, 75, 67, 73; E Els (SA) 72, 72, 69, 78 293: V Singh (Fiji) 75, 72, 74, 72 297: C Montgomerie (GB) 79, 76, 71, 71. 298: P Mickelson (US) 73, 77, 72, 76

THE LAKES GC, Sydney: Greg Norman Classic: Leading third round scores (Aus unless stated): 203: C Parry 65, 67, 71 205: M Campbell (NZ) 66, 68, 71. 207: J-L Guepy (Fr) 70, 63, 74 208: B Faxon (US) 68, 70, 70, F Nobilo (NZ) 64, 70, 74; G Waite (NZ) 66, 70, 72, T Price 68, 69, 71 211: P Senior 68, 67, 76 213: J Daly (US) 74, 71, 68; D Duncavey (US) 70, 73, 70; J Evans 72, 72, 69; S Scahill (NZ) 73, 67, 73 214: A Bonhomme 71, 70, 73; J Senden 71, 70, 73; N Smith 71, 69, 74, J van de Velde (Fr) 73, 67, 74, R Stephens 72, 68, 74 215: A Cejka (Ger) 72, 73, 70; R Allenby 75, 70, 70; D Small (NZ) 72, 71, 72

LA MANGA, Spain: European Women's Tour qualifying school: Final round scores (GB and Ire unless stated): 288: T Craik 71, 72, 70, 75 290: A M Knight 75, 69, 74, 72 291 T Lowrys 72, 73, 72, 74 293: S Melin (Swe) 75, 74, 71, 73. 294: D Donniger (US) 72, 77, 70, 75. 295: H Koch (Swe) 74, 77, 74, 70; J Mills (Aus) 69, 79, 74, 73, I Tinning (Den) 71, 76, 74, 74. 297: S Eriksson (Swe) 79, 73, 70, 75. 298: I Macon (It) 79, 72, 76, 71; M Burstrom (Swe) 75, 75, 76, 72; M Arruti (Sp) 75, 77, 74, 72; F Fehlauer (Ger) 75, 75, 75, 73; M McKinlay 71, 80, 73, 74; E J Smith 75, 72, 74, 77. 299: A Radford 77, 78, 74, 70; C Schmitt (Fr) 78, 76, 73, 72; R Comstock (US) 76, 78, 72, 75. 300: S Parnau (US) 78, 74, 74, 74, S Sharpe 72, 76, 76, 76

HOCKEY

MEN'S NATIONAL LEAGUE: First division: Guildford 3 Surbiton 2: Hull 0 East Grinstead 1; Indian Gymkhana 1 Cannock 9; Old Loughtonians 3 Carnsdoury 2; Reading 5 Bournville 2; Southgate 0 Bedford Tigers 0; St Albans 0 Hounslow 3; Stourport 0 Havant 1; Trojans 1 Teddington 2.

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Cannock	9	7	1	1	46	7	22
Reading	9	7	1	1	42	15	22
Southgate	9	7	1	1	33	12	22
O Loughtonians	9	7	1	1	30	15	22
Guildford	9	6	2	1	35	16	20
Surbiton	9	5	1	3	24	19	16
Havant	9	5	0	4	21	22	15
East Grinstead	9	4	1	4	23	24	13
Canterbury	9	4	1	4	22	23	13
Bedford Tigers	9	3	3	3	23	26	12
Hounslow	9	3	2	4	17	18	11
Teddington	8	3	2	3	17	21	11
Indian G	9	2	1	6	13	29	7
Trojans	9	2	0	7	10	29	6
Bournville	9	2	1	6	15	32	7
St Albans	9	2	0	7	10	29	6
Stourport	9	1	0	8	10	35	3
Hull	8	0	1	7	4	26	1

Second division: Bluehearts 3 Brooklands 5; City of Portsmouth 2 Beeston 7. Doncaster 5 Bromley 2; Edgbaston 1 Olton and West Warwicks 0, Gloucester City 4 Harleston Magpies 2; Oxford University 2 Crosby 0; Richmond 2 Isca 0; Sheffield 4 Hampstead and Westminster 3; Slough 3 Firebrands 2.

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Beeston	9	9	0	0	40	16	27
Brooklands	9	5	3	1	24	15	18
Gloucester City	9	5	2	2	21	16	17
Bluehearts	9	5	2	2	19	15	17
Doncaster	9	5	1	3	26	21	16
Crosby	9	5	0	4	14	12	15
Oxford Univ	8	4	1	3	14	16	13
Edgbaston	9	4	1	4	11	13	13
Portsmouth	9	4	1	4	16	24	13
Isca	9	4	0	5	12	14	12
Bromley	9	4	0	5	19	23	12
Harleston M	9	3	2	4	17	17	11
Hampstead	9	3	1	5	16	18	10
Firebrands	9	3	1	5	11	14	10
Sheffield	9	3	1	5	14	21	10
Slough	8	2	2	4	12	14	8
Richmond	9	2	0	7	12	18	6
Olton and WW	9	1	0	8	5	16	3

HA CUP: Fourth round: Beeston 4 Hull 3; Canterbury 4 Formby 0, East Grinstead 8 Hampstead and Westminster 1; Edgbaston 5 Khalsa 4 (aet); Firebrands 3 Chichester 2 (aet); Guildford 3 Norton 0; Harborne 2 Slough 5 (aet); Hounslow 2 Havant 6, Indian Gymkhana 3 Southgate 4; Old Loughtonians 4 City Of Portsmouth 2; Reading 9 Brooklands 1; Richmond 2 Olton and West Warwicks 1; Surbiton 2 Cannock 4; Teddington 4 Bromley 1; Trojans 4 Doncaster 2 (aet); Wimbledon 2 Gloucester City 1.

NASTRO AZZURRO LEAGUE: Premier League: Ashford 2 High Wycombe 3; Beckenham 1 Newbury 1; Bournemouth 3 Chichester 2; Fareham 2 Anchorians 1; Gore Court 2 Old Kingstonians 0; Lewes 2 Lions 1; Maidenhead 3 Wokingham 0; Old Welcomtians 0 Wimbledon 7; Oxford Hawks 3 Spencer 1, Winchester 1 Woking 1; Hemel/Hale/Surrey: Blandford 2 Basingstoke 3; Camberley 5 Solent HC 1, Cheam 2 Walton and Weybridge 2; Dulwich 0 Purley 0; London University 0 Oxshott 2; Old Cranleighans 3 Southampton 0; Old Edwardians 2 Barnes 2; Old Whitgiftians 2 Epsom 0; Oxted 0 Old Mid Whitgiftians 4; Petersfield 4 Andover 1, Kent/Sussex: Bekenham 3 Sevenoaks 1; Bexley Invicta 2 Tunbridge Wells 6, Blackheath 5 Worthing 2; Brighton 3 Bexleyheath 2; Crawley 0 Tulse Hill 3, Herne Bay 2 Old Beccehamians 2, Horsham 1 Bognor 3, Marden Russets 1 Old Williamsonians 0; Middleton 2 Mid Sussex 2; Old Bordenians 1 Old Holcombeans 3 Mid/Berks/Bucks and Oxon: Amersham 2 Eastcote 4; Bracknell 0 Marlow 1; ETESSA 0 Hendon 0; Headington 2 City of Oxford 3; OMT 1 Milton Keynes 0; PHC Chiswick 2 NPL 2; Ramgarhia 7 Mill Hill 1; Richings Park 1 Hayes 3; Slaines 1 Harrow 1; Sunbury 0 HCC 1

ADNAMS EAST LEAGUE: Premier division A: Chelmsford 1 Cambridge University 1; Colchester 6 Bedford Town 1; Ipswich 4 Bishop's Stortford 1; Peterborough Town 3 Bury St Edmunds 2; Redbridge and Ilford 2 Cambridge City 1. **Premier division B:** Norwich City 0 Clacton 3; Old Southendian 0 Westcliff 0, Romford 4 Brentwood 2; Stevenage 2 Ipswich and East Suffolk 2, Sudbury 4 Luton Town 2

NORTH LEAGUE: First division: Formby 2 Southport 1; Halifax 1 Ben Rhydding 3; Norton 6 Neston 2; Sheffield Bankers 3 Timperley 1; Warrington 5 Harrogate 1

DTZ DEBENHAM THORPE LEAGUE: Premier division: Bloxwich 1 Belper 0; Khalsa 0 Hampton-in-Arden 1; Loughborough Students 4 Bridgnorth 0; North Notts 0 Harbourne 4; Nottingham 1 John Player 3.

SUN LIFE WEST LEAGUE: First division: Cheltenham 0 Whitchurch 1; Plymouth 6 Robinsons 3; Swansea 4 Bath Buccs 1, Taunton Vale 2 Bristol 2; Weston-super-Mare 3 Exeter University 1

WOMEN'S NATIONAL LEAGUE: Premier division: Bracknell 0 Ipswich 5; Doncaster 1 Clifton 0; Leicester 2 Sutton 2; Slough 0 Hightown 3 First division: Bedfans 1 Canterbury 0; Bradford 0 Chelmsford 3; Trojans 6 Exmouth 0; Wimbledon 1 Bluehearts 1 Second division: Ealing 1 Aldridge 1; Loughborough Students 6 Reading 0, St Albans 1 Sherwood 2; Woking 2 Otton 2

AEWHA CUP: Third round: Aldridge 1 Luton Town 1; Ashford (Kent) 1 Winnington Pk 1, Billingham 0 Harleston Magpies 1; Bluehairs 0 Woking 4; Bracknell 0 Doncaster 1; Broxbourne 1 Leyland Motors 0; Camberley 0 Cambridge Univ 0, Canterbury 2 Tulse Hill 1; Chelmsford Broadoak 7 Bournemouth 0; City Of Portsmouth 4 Reading 2; Clifton 2 Blackburn 0; Dulwich 0 Loughborough Students 0; Ealing 4 Cheltenham 0; Exmouth 1 Maidenhead 1 (Maidenhead win 4-3 on penalties); Farnborough 1 Exeter 2; Havant wo Bradford Swithenbank; Hendon 1 Dudley 1 (Hendon win 4-2 on penalties), Highgrove 4 Southampton 0; Ipswich 2 Sutton Canada 1; Liverpool 2 Hampton-in-Arden 2 (Liverpool win 4-3 on penalties); North Shields 3 Harrow 1; Norwich City 0 Leamington 2; Old Loughtonians 4 Newcastle 1; Olton 5 York 0; Penzance 2 Wimbledon 5; Peterborough 0 Sunderland Bedans 6; Poynton 2 Trojans 2 (Trojans win 3-2 on penalties); Redbridge and Ilford 1 Crimson Ramblers 2; St Albans 0 Balsam 2; Leicester 2 Sevenoaks 5 Rover Cowley 2; Sherwood 1 Slough 5, Winchester 7 Chamock 0.

WOMEN'S REGIONAL LEAGUES: East: Cambridge City 1 Bexleyheath 0; Harleston 4 Sanacens 0; O Loughtonians 6 Sevenoaks 0; Welwyn GC 4 Ipswich 0. 0. **Midlands:** Kettering 2 Bedford 0; Leicester 1 Ramblers 2; Pavant 0 Hampton 6; Pickwick 2 Tamworth 2. **North:** Don Valley 0 Carlisle 1; Poynton 2 York 0; Sheffield 3 Newcastle 1. Postponed: Blackburn v Liverpool. **South:** Camberley 2 W Witney 3, Hendon 1 Portsmouth 1, Winchester 0 Southampton 2; Winchmore Hill 1 Hampstead 2; Worthing 0 Dulwich 0 West: Cheltenham 2 Leamington 0; E Gloucester 1 Bournemouth 0; Wimborne 1 Colwall 1; Yate 1 St Austell 2.

ICE HOCKEY

NATIONAL LEAGUE (NHL) Boston 6 Buffalo 4; Florida 5 Hartford 3; NY Islanders 4 New Jersey 1; St Louis 7 Edmonton 3; Detroit 11 Montreal 1; Toronto 4 Anaheim 4 (OT); Winnipeg 2 Chicago 2 (OT); NY Rangers 4 Ottawa 2; Dallas 2 Los Angeles 2 (OT); San Jose 5 Washington 3

BENSON AND HEDGES CUP: Final: Nottingham 2 Sheffield 5.

ICE SKATING

BRISBANE: World junior figure skating championship: Final (total factored place, short programme, free skating): 1, E Ivanova (Russ) 1.5pts; 2, E Pingacheva (Russ) 4 0; 3, N Kamaeva (Russ) 4.0 Ice dance: Final (total factored place, compulsory dance one, compulsory dance two, original dance, free dance): 1, E Davydova and R Kostomarov (Russ) 3 0pts; 2, I Dalobel and O Schoenfelder (Fr) 3.0; 3, N Gudina and V Kurkudym (Ukr) 6.8.

JUDO

BANGOR, Northern Ireland: British Closed Championships: Men: U60kg: 1, J Buchanan (Scot); 2, J Authers (Midlands). **U65kg:** 1, J P Bell (South); 2, D Somerville (Scot) **U71kg:** 1, P Leishman (South); 2, L Johnson Burbridge (Midlands). **U78kg:** 1, C Johnson (North-West); 2, S Withers (South). **U86kg:** (London) **U95kg:** 1, K Davies (London), 2, L Hibbert (Northern HC). **95kg+:** 1, N Kokolatylo (North-West); 2, G Brown (Yorks and Humbs) **Women: U48kg:** 1, K Dunkley (London); 2, V Dunn (London). **U52kg:** 1, D Allan (South); 2, G Singleton (South). **U56kg:** 1, C Richards (Wales); 2, J Brien (Scot). **U61kg:** 1, C Peel (London); 2, R Felton (Mids). **U66kg:** 1, K Powell (London); 2, M Holt (London). **U72kg:** 1, J Mellen (Wales); 2, N Dillon (Northern HC). **O72kg:** 1, J Morris (South), 2, K Bryant (South).

LACROSSE

SHEPHERDS FRIENDLY SOCIETY: Premier division: Mellor 14 Cheadle 6; Heaton Mersey 8 Boardman and Eccles 7; Poynton 9 Cheadle Hulme 10; Stockport 10 Timperley 10; Old Waconians 12 Sheffield Steelers 9

SKIING

VAIL, Colorado: Men's world cup: Super-giant slalom: 1, L Kjus (Nor) 1min 34.15sec; 2, R Kroell (Austria) 1:34.44; 3, P Vitalini (It) 1:34 50. British: 61, G Bell 1:37.27. **Standings:** 1, Kjus 100pts; 2, Kroell 80; 3, Vitalini 60 **Overall standings:** 1, Kius 465pts; 2, M von Grunigen (Switz) 300; 3, F Nyberg (Swe) 206. **Nations Cup standings:** 1, Austria 1,557pts; 2, Switzerland 1,118, 3, Norway 911

SNOOKER

PRESTON: Royal Liver Assurance UK Championship: Final: Jamshar Khan (Pak) bt R Eyles (Aus) 15-4 15-9 17-16

PONTEFRACT: Cannon's British Satellite circuit: Final: M Berrett (Yorks) bt A Toss (Yorks) 9-1, 9-1, 9-3

SQUASH

QATAR: Men's International championship: Final: Jansher Khan (Pak) bt R Eyles (Aus) 15-4 15-9 17-15

PONTEFRACT: Cannon's British Satellite circuit: Final: M Berrett (Yorks) bt A Toss (Yorks) 9-1, 9-1, 9-3

SWIMMING

RIO DE JANEIRO: World short-course championships: Finals: **Men: 200m free-style:** 1, S Goodman (Aus) 1min 54.79sec; 2, S Miller (Aus) 1:56.36. 3, C C Bremer (Ger) 1:57 30. **200m breaststroke:** 1, Wang Yiwu (China) 2 11 11, 2, R Mitchell (Aus) 2:11 45. **Women: 400m freestyle:** 1, C Poll (C Rica) 4:05. 18, 2, C Geuntz (Holl) 4:06.20. 3, S Hardcastle (GB) 4:07.20 **100 metres butterfly:** 1, Liu Limin (China) 58.68sec; 2, S O'Neill (Aus) 58.69; 3, A Kennedy (Aus) 58 74 **100m breaststroke:** 1, S Riley (Aus) 1min 05.70sec; 2, S Bondarenko (Ukr) 1:07.78; 3, L Frame (Aus) 1:08 61

RUGBY UNION

Tour matches

Midlands	40	W Samoans	19

Midland division: Tries: Allen, Dawson, Rodber, two penalty tries **Cons:** Grayson 3. **Pens:** Grayson 3. **Western Samoans: Tries:** Birtwistle, Telea, Vaega. **Cons:** Kelleti 2.

(at Leicester)

Munster	16	Transvaal	16

Munster: Try: Coughlan **Con:** Burke **Pens:** Burke 3. **Transvaal: Tries:** Scholtz, van der Merwe. **Pens:** Gullingham 2.

(at Cork)

CIS divisional championship

London	11	South West	26

London division: Try: Allison **Pens:** Gregory 2. **South West division: Tries:** Hill 2, Hull. **Con:** Hull. **Pens:** Hull 2, King.

(at Sunbury)

CIS county championship

Midlands

North Midlands	33	Staffordshire	16

North Midlands: Tries: Lewis, Pennington, Woodworth 2. **Cons:** Pennington 2. **Pens:** Pennington 3 **Staffordshire: Tries:** Pride, Walker **Pens:** Mills 2

(at Stourbridge)

Yesterday

Notts, Lincs & D	8	Leicestershire	34

Notts, Lincs and Derbys: Try: Clark. **Dropped goal:** Sladdert. **Leicestershire: Tries:** Hopwood 3, Howard, Knock, Lang **Cons:** Knockles 2.

(at Newark)

North

Cheshire	33	Durham	31

Cheshire: Tries: Blood, Brookman, Ellis **Cons:** Swindells 3. **Pens:** Swindells 4. **Durham: Tries:** Lancaster, Shaw, Spearman **Cons:** Oliphant 2. **Pens:** Oliphant 4.

(at Wilmslow)

Cumbria	14	Yorkshire	30

Cumbria: Tries: Hetherington, Richardson **Cons:** Southwell 2 **Yorkshire: Tries:** Heaselgrave, Hesletine, Howarth, Rice **Cons:** Howarth 2. **Pens:** Howarth 2.

(at Aspatria)

Northumberland	9	Lancashire	11

Northumberland: Pens: Belgian 3 **Lancashire: Try:** Monaghan. **Pens:** Gough 2

(at Tynedale)

South

Berkshire	22	Buckinghamshire	0

Berkshire: Tries: Clark, Phillips, Pratt **Cons:** J Dance 2. **Pen:** J Dance

(at Maidenhead)

Devon	26	Hertfordshire	28

Devon: Tries: Thomas, penalty try **Cons:** Thomson 2 **Pens:** Thomson 3 **Dropped goal:** Thomson. **Hertfordshire: Try:** Thomas **Con:** Rudling **Pens:** Rudling 7.

(at Plymouth)

Oxfordshire	10	Gloucestershire	34

Oxfordshire: Tries: Perkins, Swadling **Gloucestershire: Tries:** Knibbs, Knox, Nelmes, Perrins, Shipton 2 **Cons:** Stanlake 2.

(at Banbury)

Kent	27	Hampshire	31

Kent: Tries: Baker, Graham, MacAuley **Cons:** Larkin 3. **Pens:** Larkin 2. **Hampshire: Try:** Pinnock, **Con:** Rowledge. **Pens:** Rowledge 6 **Dropped goals:** Livesey 2.

(at Blackheath)

Sussex	17	Middlesex	25

Sussex: Try: Cook. **Pens:** Broughton 4 **Middlesex: Try:** R Davies **Con:** R Davies **Pens:** R Davies 8.

(at Lewes)

Cornwall	44	Eastern Counties	6

Cornwall: Tries: Atkinson, Penrose, Thomas 2, Yelland 2 **Cons:** Thomas 4 **Pens:** Thomas 2. **Eastern Counties: Pens:** G Cutting 2.

(at Camborne)

Surrey	25	Somerset	22

Surrey: Tries: Catlin, Greville, Murphy. **Cons:** Hoad 2. **Pens:** Hoad 2. **Somerset: Tries:** Larkins, Westcott. **Pens:** Edmonds 3 **Dropped goal:** Edmonds.

(at Imber Court)

CIS under-21 county championship

North

Cheshire	38	Durham	15
Cumbria	0	Yorkshire	49
Northumberland	8	Lancashire	25

South West

Buckinghamshire	5	Dorset & Wilts	3

South East

Hertfordshire	12	Surrey	10
Kent	35	Eastern Co	17
Middlesex	22	Hampshire	8

Inter-provincial championship

Connacht	9	Ulster	27

Connacht: Pens: Elwood 3 **Ulster: Tries:** Field, Topping **Con:** McCall **Pens:** McCall 5

(at Galway)

Exiles	26	Leinster	42

Exiles: Tries: Corcoran, Henderson, Malone, Saweninutto **Cons:** Corcoran 3 **Leinster: Tries:** McOullkin 3, Costello, Gavin, O'Shea. **Cons:** McGowan 3. **Pens:** McGowan, O'Shea.

(at Sale)

Heineken League

First division

Aberavon	8	Newport	6

Aberavon: Try: Lalty Dropped goal: Watts. **Newport: Pens:** G Rees 2

Cardiff	18	Bridgend	19

Cardiff: Tries: A Booth, G Jones **Con:** C John **Pens:** C John 2 **Bridgend: Try:** Durston **Con:** M Lewis **Pens:** M Lewis 4.

Ebbw Vale	3	Pontypridd	7

Ebbw Vale: Pen: Hayward. **Pontypridd: Try:** Rowley **Con:** Jenkins.

Llanelli	13	Swansea	3

Llanelli: Try: J Williams. **Con:** McCarthy **Pens:** McCarthy 2. **Swansea: Pen:** A Williams.

Neath	42

Clarke the inspiration as Britain runs away with bronze

By David Powell
Athletics Correspondent

WHEN, five weeks ago, Ralph Percy became the twelfth Duke of Northumberland after the death of his brother, he said he was dreading the responsibility. On Saturday, on the ducal estate, over a testing course next to Alnwick Castle, responsibility for the regeneration of British cross country passed to a team of eager young fusiliers.

Led by Andrew Pearson, winning Britain's first individual medal in a men's international cross country championship for seven seasons, the host nation took team bronze in the European championships with a squad which promises to serve for years to come. Only Britain had three in the first six and each of them is under 25.

Pearson, 24, was third; Keith Cullen, 23, was fourth; Jon Brown, 24, was sixth. If this does not draw Britain's better-known distance runners into the cause of taking on the Africans at the world championships in South Africa next March, nothing will. "I hope it will inspire Paul Evans, Eamonn Martin, John Nuttall, Rob Denmark, Gary Staines and people like them," Dave Clarke, the team manager, said.

This was Clarke's first championship in charge and he played as much of a part as any medal-winner. He engendered a team spirit not always evident in recent seasons.

Something David Taylor, Britain's fourth and decisive scorer, had said on Friday stuck in the mind. "Dave phoned me on Wednesday and said: 'We have got Andrew, Jon and Keith in great shape, we need a fourth person up there.' I feel there is a lot of incentive."

A mere telephone call had helped to inspire Taylor to 42nd place, seeing off the French challenge for bronze.

Britain might even have won. John Downes finished 17th and would have been running for Britain, he said, had he not been overlooked for an international track championships vest last year. Out of pique, he opted for Ireland.

Unlike some years ago, when there was always an athlete ready to complain that he should be picked for the world championships without running the trial, Pearson has no such arrogance. It is a pity that the British Athletic Federation's finances are in such a parlous state that it cannot afford to be as helpful.

Clarke and the athletes are doing their bit. It is time for the federation to find some serious money for Britain's distance runners.

Results, page 32



Hand, right, of Sheffield, who scored a hat-trick, disputes possession of the puck with Morgan, of Nottingham, in Saturday's final. Photograph: John Houlihan

Hand applauds vision of excitement



Oliver Holt steps into the bright new world of British ice hockey on a gloomy night in Yorkshire

Tony Hand has played in the past. He made the long journeys on the club coach to teams like the Billingham Bombers and Whitley Bay Warriors, where the ice surface was rough and ragged and the puck cannoned off the boards at strange angles, and still he stayed. Even when one of North America's strongest teams, the Edmonton Oilers, offered him the chance to become the first Briton to make it to the NHL, the ice hockey big time, he turned them down.

At the beginning of this season, Hand glimpsed the future. The man who is universally regarded as the best domestic player the modern British game has produced, moved from Murrayfield Racers, in his native Edinburgh, to Sheffield Steelers after 13 seasons in Scotland. On Saturday, in the Benson and Hedges Cup Final between the Steelers and Nottingham Panthers, the future, in all its rock music and razzamatazz, was there for all to see.

The Noose and Gibbet pub opposite the stadium seemed a bit out of place amid all the talk of what might lie ahead, but, that apart, everything fitted the script perfectly. Rising out of the gloom of a foggy South Yorkshire night, the spotlights surrounding the Sheffield Arena made it look like a spaceship that had fallen to earth, a vast container for something new and exciting.

Inside, supporters from both teams, the fiercest rivals in the British League, mixed happily, munching nachos, hot dogs and fish and chips. There were women and children aplenty, most wearing team shirts autographed by their heroes. When the match started, the lulls in the action were enlivened by bursts of rock music, each snatch of guitar prompting its own individual hand jive from the supporters.

After the match, won 5-2 by the Steelers with the help of a Hand hat-trick, the players celebrated on the ice for the benefit of the supporters and then came straight into a press conference. Each was the soul of co-operation and articulate with it. Of course, their sport is at the tender age when it needs to court the press but, in public relations terms at least, they put a game like football, almost drowning in its own complacency, to shame.

There were more than 10,100 people in the capacity crowd, a British record for an ice-hockey game and a tribute to the successful copying of the North American model. In Sheffield, at least, they have got it off-pat, right down to the bugle calls in moments of home team need, the darkness and spotlights when the teams are introduced at the beginning. They played something that sounded like Ennio Morricone before the start, rather than the Gary Glitter ubiqitous in the United States and Canada, but nobody seemed to mind.

The Steelers have lavished more than a fistful of dollars on their impressive facilities and the assembly of a team that boasts not only Hand, but also Ken Priestlay, a centre who, during his years with Pittsburgh Penguins, twice won the most prestigious trophy in the sport, the Stanley Cup. They were formed only four years ago but the Steelers are the reigning Premier League champions, the team at the forefront of the push into a new era embodied by the establishment of a Super League next year to which teams will be admitted primarily on the basis of their financial position.

Hand, a fine ambassador for the sport, is "intelligent enough to realise that the future is not all rosy. The Super League, which does not have a sponsor, is dominated by Canadian-born players either not good enough or too old to make it at home, and he sees little prospect of another Briton being given the chance to develop as he did and get the opportunity of a berth in the NHL.

"There are too many imported players at the moment," he said. "It is very hard for junior players to come through the ranks and that is sad. Teams would rather go out and buy players than bring them through. The Steelers are in that group, too, but it is not anyone's fault. They have got to keep winning and keep the crowds up.

"But Sheffield are leading the way forward for this sport. The Super League is the way to go. I think everyone feels that. The facilities in Sheffield are fantastic and we work as hard now as they do in the NHL.

"The atmosphere here is better than at a lot of NHL games, too. We used to get crowds of about two thousand when I was at Murrayfield and I left for nights like tonight. I have only been here a few months and there has been a lot of pressure on us to win things. This was the first one available. The future looks good."

Steelers power to third trophy success

Sheffield Steelers	5
Nottingham Panthers	2

By Norman de Mesquita

SHEFFIELD Steelers, with a convincing victory over Nottingham Panthers, added the Benson and Hedges Cup to the premier division and British championship titles they won last spring. There can now be no argument as to the validity of their theme song: *Simply The Best*.

They dominated the final on Saturday before a 10,136 sell-out crowd in Sheffield Arena and, while some will suggest that playing in front of their home crowd was a distinct advantage, it hardly affected the outcome.

The Nottingham coach, Mike Blaisdell, had made it clear before the final that they needed to score early goals and "take the crowd out of the game". But instead, the Panthers seemed to spend most of the evening in their own defensive zone and, when they did get to the other end, they found Wayne Cowley in unbeatable form in the Sheffield goal.

Another key ingredient in the Steelers' success was Tony Hand, who scored twice in 90 seconds in the second period, sandwiching a Tommy Plommer goal, to put them 4-0 in front after Nicky Chinn had opened the scoring.

Darren Durdle did get the Panthers on the board early in the third period. Then, with less than two minutes to go, Blaisdell removed his goalkeeper for an extra forward and the ploy produced a second Nottingham goal, only for Hand to complete his hat-trick by firing into an empty net in the dying seconds.

SCORERS: Sheffield: T Hand (3), N Chinn, T Plommer Nottingham: D Durdle, M Blaisdell

Hamed is offered £1m for bout with champion

By Srikumar Sen
Boxing Correspondent

NASEEM HAMED could make £1 million if he were to box Wayne McCullough, the World Boxing Council bantamweight champion, from Northern Ireland. But the World Boxing Organisation featherweight champion must come down to McCullough's weight to collect the money.

The offer was made by McCullough's American manager, Mat Tinley, after the Irishman had successfully defended his title by stopping Johnny Bredahl, of Denmark, in eight rounds in Belfast on Saturday.

Tinley refused to meet Hamed halfway, at super-bantamweight. He said that Hamed's promoter, Frank Warren, had offered him £1 million to meet at super-bantamweight but no title would be at stake. Tinley was not interested.

Tinley refused to believe that Hamed could not make bantamweight any more. "£1 million!" Tinley said. "That is five times more than Hamed has ever made. Wayne's 5ft 7in and he can make 118lb. Naseem Hamed is 5ft 3in. He made 118 a year ago. The reason he can't make it now is because he is running around London's West End eating fried food. The headlines in London should read 'Naseem, Let's get it on'."

If Hamed could make the weight by applying himself, McCullough would be in serious danger of losing his title. If the Irishman could not catch a slippery boxer like Bredahl with solid punches, he would have great difficulty fighting Hamed, who is even more elusive.

It was clear from McCullough's bout with Bredahl that he did not have a big punch. In the fifth round, when McCullough managed, for once, to corner Bredahl, he landed 23 punches without reply and the Dane did not even flinch, simply took the blows and started running around the ring again. If McCullough had the power of Barry McGuigan, only then would he have a chance of beating Hamed.

It was a pity that the champion's match-makers picked, in Bredahl, a man who is only interested in surviving by running backwards. The referee, Guadalupe Garcia, of Mexico, tried to make Bredahl fight by telling him in the eighth round to give of his best, but then, surprisingly, within seconds of the instructions, Garcia stopped the bout.

McCullough should be at his best in his next bout in Dublin in March, when he is expected to meet José Bueno, of Mexico, a man who comes to fight.

Glorious mud fires team spirit

By Barry Trowbridge

ONE of the most unforgettable sights in British sport is the start of the English cross country championship — the "National", as it is known to those who follow this unglamorous branch of track and field athletics.

Close on 2,000 runners — some of them internationals, the majority the backbones of their clubs, perhaps only a relative handful making up the number — setting off over nine miles of demanding terrain at an awesome gallop sounds perfect Saturday afternoon television. Year after year, though, it is overlooked.

Instead, what cross country that does reach the small screen is, more often than not, little more than track running on grass. To accommodate cameras and to provide what is regarded as "good" viewing, circuits are restricted in length, few other than the leaders are identified and the camaraderie that exists between competitors, spectators, and even officials on short, winter afternoons is lost.

Considering that most people's introduction to cross country is at school and occurs because "the gym is being used for exams" or "it's too wet to play football (or rugby, or hockey)", and that it is seldom presented as a sport to enjoy, it is difficult to understand why so many youngsters persevere. They do, though, and not just because of the "National", so there must be something else.

A well-established, structured season, with schools and clubs complementing, rather than fighting against each other, helps, and the climax of the English Schools Cross Country Cup, one of the most recent additions to the calendar, took place on Saturday at Shirebrook Community School in Derbyshire.

For each of four age-groups, intermediate (school years nine and ten) and junior (seven and eight) boys and girls, eight regional races were held on November 11, with the leading 24 schools in each category qualifying for the finals. Necessarily, therefore, many leading individuals were missing, but that did not diminish an enjoyable festival of fiercely competitive sport; mud, mist, hills, and all.

On a day when the emphasis was rightly very much on teams, the North-West stood apart by taking all four team trophies, while on the individual front, three titles fell to pupils from Essex and the fourth provided Daniel Carthy, from Ivybridge School in Devon, with a fifteenth birthday present a day early.

Encouraged at school by Kirk Salmon, who, in his own days as a schoolboy athlete, gave best only to Dave Moorcroft, Carthy improved on his second place of last year by kicking on at the crest of the final climb. Although he admitted that he has been running since he was ten, Carthy's modesty was matched only by Salmon's reluctance to claim any credit.

In a competition that began with 720 teams from some 400 schools, reaching the final itself can be classed as success. When you consider that, when Salmon joined the staff at Ivybridge six years ago, athletics was something that other schools did, and that, even now, the only facility on site is a long jump pit, his achievements are immense.

On the other side of the country, at Southend High School, the girls probably do not know how lucky they are. Cajoled there by Mary Green, who competed in the 1968 Olympics, they are introduced to cross country as a matter of course. "Although they wouldn't like to admit it," Green said, "the two weeks of cross country that they do as part of our curriculum leave them feeling a lot healthier. They can feel the benefit."

If the girls want more, they can join the cross country club, which is the route to success that appealed to Sarah Raven. Another runner-up in 1994, Raven, 13 only on November 22, admitted that she had expected to win, and did so by an emphatic 12 seconds on a course measuring little more than 2.5 kilometres. Behind her, Lisa Briscoe, in sixth, and Orva Smith, in eighth, almost made it the perfect day for Green. Led by Louise Whittaker, though, Weaversham School, from Northwich, stole her thunder.

Long before track athletes with inflated egos chose to hold the sport to ransom, a cross country circuit existed in Europe. For the best, cross country provided enough money for mortgage-free living; for track and field, cross country provided winter competition for runners who pioneered the rebirth of British athletics.

Even before the halcyon days of Steve Ovett and Sebastian Coe, David Bedford and Brendan Foster could fill stadiums. Ask them where it all started, though, and the answer would be "cross country". Long may it be so.

DAVE SNOWDON



Gail Scotland, of St Hilda's School, Liverpool, gets a warm welcome from a friend after finishing her race

Male anglers skating on thin ice

Brian Clarke ponders popular theories on the relative abilities of the sexes

I found myself in Stockbridge a few days ago, giving a talk for charity in what many regard as the birthplace of dry fly-fishing as a recognisable sport. The Houghton Club, that tiny band of well-heeled rodders to which the great F. M. Halford and some of his pioneering cronies once belonged, still has its headquarters in the Grosvenor Hotel in the main street.

The River Test, where Halford carried out much of his research on aquatic insects and developed some of the earliest artificial flies to imitate them, still ripples largely unsullied under the bridge there, 100-plus years on. In Stockbridge country, fly-fishing is accommodated in the genes and fly-fishers are thick on the ground.

I have no idea how many women fished in Halford's time, but if some of the pictures we see of the early Houghton mob are representative, the world then was peopled entirely by dour old gents. For my talk, the old town hall, opposite the Grosvenor, was packed with anglers, among them many women; not women simply there with angling husbands, but women fly-fishers in their own right.

According to the last credible survey, published by the National Rivers Authority at the beginning of the year, 12 per cent of all anglers are women. However, there is simply no way of appreciating quite how many women fish until something like the Stockbridge meeting occurs.

When women anglers do get together, they quite like to have fun and so, I suppose, it was inevitable that one, in a red cardigan, asked, after the meeting: "Do women make better anglers than men?" A few males who overheard pressed close, as wide-eyed as hares, perhaps sensing blood.

In truth, the question has been asked since Georgina Ballantyne took what was still the record salmon, in 1992. It has been repeated whenever women fishers gather, whenever any woman catches a lot of fish or a great fish.

One suggestion is that women catch a lot of great cock salmon because the male fish in some way detect the pheromones being given out by the woman behind the rod.

I have never taken this theory too seriously, in part because I am not prepared to ponder the questions raised about the hen fish which these women catch, in part because every time I try to imagine a woman exuding pheromones everywhere, the image is supplanted by that Thurber cartoon showing electricity seeping out of a light socket and leaking all over a room. Then my concentration goes.

For all that, I have encountered angling instructors who say that women, in the main, learn more quickly than men because they listen more closely. Women, these professionals say, have less need to show how they can cast to the antipodes before they can keep their back-casts off the ground.

Some people feel that an essential difference between men and women is that women are more patient with a pool or a fish, and quite often will bring a fish up through sheer persistence when a man would have passed by. One male crowder-in at Stockbridge put it another way, but only once the red-cardiganed lady had moved on. "It's not that they are more patient, it's that they are too unimaginative to see alternative possibilities," was how he saw it.

Well, many experienced fly-fishers know that, provided the casting is delicate and the fish is not alarmed, a salmon will often tolerate repeated casting and pop up out of the blue. Hugh Falkus wrote about this in 1984. G. M. L. La Branche, the American writer, believed the same to be true of trout in fast water, and said as much as long ago as 1914. So, perhaps, temperamentally, women are onto something here.

There is, of course, another possibility. It is a somewhat unchivalrous suggestion, one raised by another in that huddle of brave males once Stockbridge Woman had moved on. He said that the reason that some women were more successful than men was that competent women, along with less competent women, always got to fish the best places: if they fished alone, they took the best places; if they fished with men, then the males deferred and offered them the best places. How, he asked, could a competent woman fisher, forever on the hot-spots, fail to do better than a competent man fishing the second-best places.

The men who had been as wide-eyed as hares before Stockbridge Woman, nodded and smiled, and suddenly looked a lot better.

But I don't know. This is winter and the season of thin ice. Stockbridge Man might have said that, stern old Halford might have said that, but I couldn't possibly.



A woman angler displays typical concentration while fishing the River Test in Hampshire

☐ *Brian Clarke's fishing column appears on the first Monday of each month*

Kabaddi may look like tag for adults, but **Guy Walters** finds you have to be fighting fit to last the distance

Playing the field with raiders of a lost art

DAVID D. RICHARDSON



Facing the enemy: you have to be nimble to play the Asian game of kabaddi, which has its roots in battle strategies — attacking, defending and capturing opponents



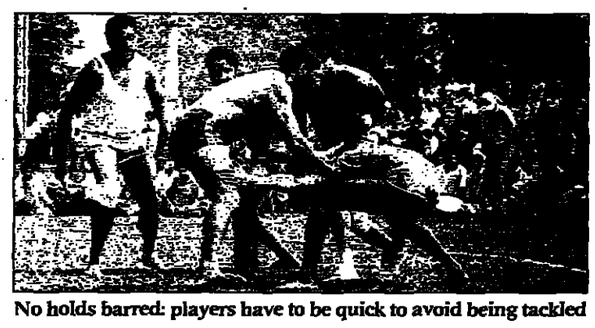
Anyone who has prematurely tuned in for the Italian football on Channel 4 might have noticed some Indians chasing each other round a sandpit. The more observant will know this to be just kabaddi, but most will dismiss it as another ethnic sport and realise that there is still time to make a cuppa before AC Milan come on. This is a pity, because kabaddi is a superb game, and it is as popular in India as football is over here.

Nearly 3,000 people play kabaddi regularly in this country, and another 5,000 play occasionally as a recreational activity. Most are from the Asian community, but the National Kabaddi Association wants to widen its appeal. "The game can be played by anybody, regardless of sex, race or creed," says Makhdoom Chishti, the NKA's development officer, although one does have to be fairly fit — the same level that is required to keep one on a rugby pitch for an hour and a half.

Kabaddi has its roots in battle strategies — the emphasis lies in attacking and defending territory as well as capturing the opponent. The game is many centuries old and is played all over South-East Asia: in Indonesia it is known as "techib", in Nepal as "do-do" and in Malaysia as "chaddo-guddo". However, kabaddi is the most recognised term, partly because of the presence of an Indian population in many countries and because it was played as a demonstration sport in the 1936 Berlin Olympics — where its potential was first recognised. The word "kabaddi", roughly translated from the Hindu, means "holding breath", which is a fundamental part of the version played on a rectangular court, which is favoured in Japan, southern India and China. The circular version is more popular in Europe and Canada but it involves no holding of breath. Both seem popular in Britain, the circular game being on a larger pitch and being more physical, while the rectangular is a tighter and more tactical game. Circular kabaddi is played by two teams of 14 players, six of whom are raiders, five defenders and three substitutes.

The pitch, which is 61 metres in diameter, is divided in half, and teams take it in turns to send a raider into the opponents' half to touch a defender. The raider then has 30 seconds to touch a defender and dash back into his own half without being tackled by the defender he has touched. If he succeeds, then his team scores a point. If he is caught and unable to return within 30 seconds, then the defending team scores a point. The game lasts for 40 minutes; the team with the most points wins.

Rectangular kabaddi is more suitable for indoors with its dimensions of 10 by 13 metres. Gameplay is similar to circular kabaddi, although teams consist of 12 players, with seven taking the field at any one time, and five substitutes. The raider has to chant "kabaddi" to prove that he is holding his breath. He then has to touch as many defenders as possible, although any number of defenders are allowed to intercept him on his way back to his half. If the defending team successfully holds a raider until he loses his chant, they win a point and the raider has to leave the field. If the raider makes it back, all those defenders he has touched or has forced out of bounds have to leave. The cliché "a minute to learn and a lifetime to master" sticks well on kabaddi. I tried both versions in Birmingham and decided that a shallow-end approach would be suitable, which meant starting as a defender. Defenders are allowed to link hands — this stops them from becoming a disparate mess and gives the raider a more tempting target. The raiders were fast and as soon as I had been touched, my opponent had already disappeared.



No holds barred: players have to be quick to avoid being tackled

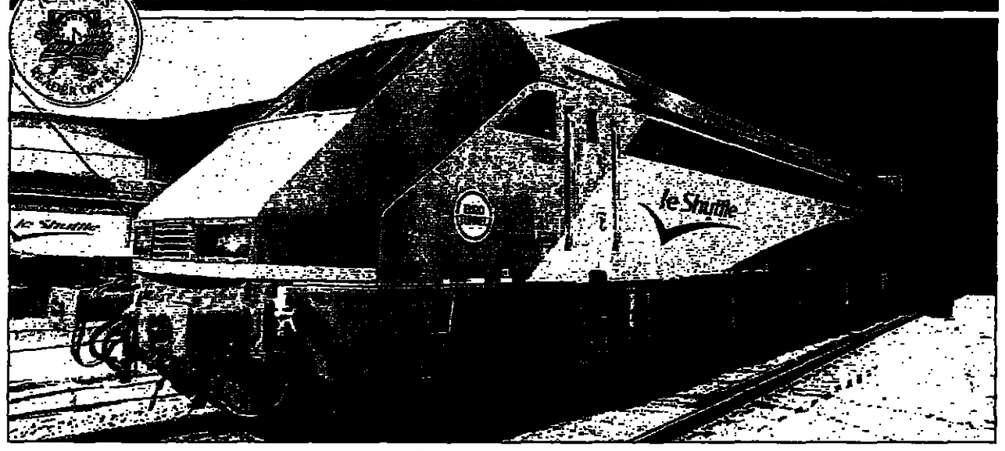
A few rounds later, I was beginning to get quicker, but not stronger — most of my opponents seemed to be more than adept at releasing themselves from my somewhat feeble holds. I was shown the best form of hold — it looked like something Joe Orton might have practised on a Moroccan beach. Eventually, feeling confident enough to try raiding, I charged into the opponents' half, bouncing up and down on the balls of my feet, ducking and diving, dummying and feinting. The defenders looked fairly amused and unconcerned. As soon as I touched one, I attempted to dash back, but to no avail. The defender pinned me to the floor before you could say "the West Bengal Panthers". I hadn't expected the game to be quite so violent, I thought after examining my bloodied knee.

I preferred the rectangular game — the distances are shorter and the chanting of "kabaddi" is, yes, highly amusing. The smaller court involves less running, which is a relief to the breathless raider. However, it can be just as violent, something that was rammed home to me as I was thrown to the floor after another unsuccessful raid. Refusing to be beaten, and on my final raid, I went all out in my attempt to be nimble and quick. It worked, but as I hurried back after a successful sortie, I found myself lifted off the floor and deposited in a miserable heap of torn shirt and lacerated dignity. Still, it hasn't deterred me, for I was well aware that my opponents were old hands at such manoeuvres.

The only way in which kabaddi will make its way from a marginal activity to a recognised sport is to have a codification — which is one of the aims of the NKA. Its chairman, Richard Callicott, a previous head of the Volleyball Association, is promoting the game to schools. Because little space and no equipment is required, kabaddi is a more economical alternative to, say, cricket. However, the sport will only be a success if people start to play on a more informal basis — akin to having a kick-around in the park. So the next time you see a bunch of people playing a regimented form of tag while chanting some Indian mantra, you'll know you've been kabaddied.

● *For further rules and information, contact the Secretary of the National Kabaddi Association: Parminder Dhani, Sandwell Council House, PO Box 3288, Oldbury, Warley, West Midlands B69 3BG*

LE SHUTTLE IS THE QUICKEST AND EASIEST WAY TO DRIVE TO FRANCE – 35 MINUTES AWAY



France for only £29

Today *The Times* and EuroDrive Travel Club offer you four great opportunities to make big savings when you use the service: a £29 day trip return, travelling Sunday to Thursday; £39 day trips when you travel on Fridays and Saturdays (except throughout December when Saturdays are excluded); NightRider Short Stay return crossings at just £49, when you can travel on any day for up to five days; or NightRider Long Stay return crossings for just £59, travelling any day with stays of over five days.

The day trip returns are valid for completed travel between December 15 and February 10, 1996 and you must travel outward and return within one calendar day. The NightRider fares are valid for completed travel before April 30, 1996 travelling outward between the hours of 9pm and 5am. All fares cover the transport of one car and all its passengers.

33% OFF DUTY FREE

Readers can also take advantage of savings of 33% off duty free goods from Le Shuttle as well as discounts on hotels in France and preferential rates on car insurance. Stopover hotel rates start at just £15 per night, per room, in Paris. Each EuroDrive booking will carry a £10 discount off the cost of a second crossing, redeemable against any brochure price standard return cross Channel ticket purchase, at any time of the year and with any operator, from EuroDrive.

HOW TO BOOK

Complete the booking form below and attach the Le Shuttle token to it. Bookings are subject to availability and allocated on a first come, first served basis. Le Shuttle operates a turn-up-and-go service, so specific crossing times cannot be be booked. The offer is only available by pre-purchase through EuroDrive using the booking form. Payment can only be accepted by credit card or Switch. If Le Shuttle cannot provide a crossing, alternative dates will be offered. Refunds will not be made. Amendments or alterations will incur a charge of £30.

THE TIMES le Shuttle TOKEN

LE SHUTTLE BOOKING FORM

Send to: EuroDrive, The Broadway, 3-5 Crouch End Hill, London N8 8DH. Fax 0181-342 8860
Please complete details of your party in BLOCK CAPITALS

Full name .....
Address .....
.....
Postcode ..... Home tel number .....
PLEASE LIST ALL MEMBERS OF YOUR PARTY:
Title Initial Surname Age
.....
.....
.....
.....
Car make and model .....
Registration number .....
I confirm my car is less than 6.5 metres in length .....
CROSSING REQUIREMENTS Outward journey Return journey
1st choice dates: .....
2nd choice dates: .....

If you would like details of accommodation please tick box ☐

PAYMENT DETAILS:
Dec 15 until Feb 10, 1996 (No Saturday day trips during December)
Day trip returns (Sun-Thur) @ £29 = £ .....
Day trip returns (Fri-Sat) @ £39 = £ .....
Now until April 30, 1996
NightRider Return (up to five days) @ £49 = £ .....
NightRider Return (over five days) @ £59 = £ .....
Car insurance @ £26 (5 days)/£40 (17 days) = £ .....
Adult insurance @ £8.50/£17 per person = £ .....
Child insurance @ £4.25/£8.50 per person = £ .....
TOTAL = £ .....

I wish to pay by Access/Visa/Switch. Please charge the total to my card as follows:
Name: ..... Number .....
Issued ..... Expiry .....
Please supply cardholder address if different

EuroDrive TRAVEL CLUB

SHEEHAN on BRIDGE

BY ROBERT SHEEHAN, BRIDGE CORRESPONDENT

End-plays in which you first eliminate the side suits by ruffing are easy to carry out. A more difficult type is one in which you have to remove the defender's spare cards by running a long suit. They are called 'squeeze end-plays'. This is a good example:

Dealer West **North-South game** **Rubber bridge**

	♠QJ963 ♥K4 ♦4 ♣KJ1053	
♠A872 ♥— ♦A765 ♣Q8764	N W E S	♠1054 ♥J873 ♦KJ1092 ♣2
	♠K ♥AQ109652 ♦Q83 ♣A9	

Contract: Five Hearts by South. Lead: Ace of Diamonds

After two passes, East opened a frisky Three Diamonds and South overcalled Four Hearts. West bid Five Diamonds and, as North, I bid Five Hearts; at any other vulnerability I would have doubled Five Diamonds. South did not really have his Four Heart bid.

West led the ace of diamonds on which East played the two. Better is the nine — a diamond continuation kills the contract. West took the two as a suit preference signal and switched to a club at trick two.

One possible line of play was to try to ruff two diamonds and hope that either three rounds of clubs stood up or that the hearts came in without loss. The declarer (David Price) wasn't hopeful of this and he judged well to win the club with the ace. He then played off all the hearts (picking up East's jack).

In the four-card ending, South held the king of spades, queen and eight of diamonds and nine of clubs; dummy was down to the queen of spades and king, jack and ten of clubs.

To guard the clubs West had to come down to the ace of spades and queen, eight and seven of clubs — he had been squeezed out of his small diamonds. Now Price played a club to the jack and, when East showed out, exited with a spade. West had to win and give dummy the last two tricks.

☐ Robert Sheehan writes on bridge Monday to Friday in Sport and in the Weekend section on Saturday.

WORD-WATCHING

By Philip Howard

GYROVAGUE
a. A rocket director
b. A wandering monk
c. A random format

COMPOTATION
a. Algebraic trigonometry
b. Polite behaviour
c. A drinking party

UNNUN
a. To defrock a nun
b. A variable indeterminate
c. An Amerindian shaman

BIGGIN
a. A Battle of Britain veteran
b. A type of old English apple
c. A coffee pot

Answers on page 39

KEENE on CHESS

BY RAYMOND KEENE
CHESS CORRESPONDENT

McShane's challenge

Britain's top chess prodigy, 11-year old Luke McShane, today challenges the world champion. Garry Kasparov in a simultaneous display on the Internet. Kasparov, playing from Munich, will face ten opponents via the Internet situated around the world. Luke McShane will be playing his moves against the champion from his headmaster's study at Westminster School, London, where he is studying. The game starts at 4pm this afternoon and can be followed live on the Intel World Wide Web site, http://www.intel.com.

Prodigy loses

The world's youngest ever grandmaster, Peter Leko, from Hungary, fared badly in the following game from the Belgrade tournament. His opponent, the Belarussian grandmaster Boris Gelfand, defended carefully against Leko's attack and finally over to the counter-offensive against White's king.

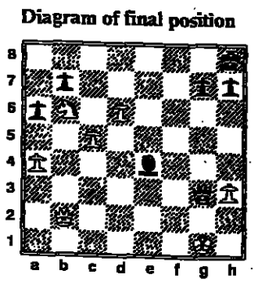
White: Peter Leko
Black: Boris Gelfand
Belgrade
November 1995

Sicilian Defence

1	e4	c5
2	Nf3	d6
3	d4	cxd4
4	Nxd4	Nf6
5	Nc3	a6
6	f4	e5
7	Nf3	Nbd7
8	a4	Be7
9	Bd3	0-0
10	0-0	exf4
11	Bxf4	Qb6+
12	Kh1	Qxb2
13	Nd5	Nxd5
14	exd5	Ne5
15	Qe2	Nxd3
16	Qxd3	Qb4
17	Bg5	Bxg5
18	Nxg5	Qh4
19	Ne4	Rd8
20	Qe3	f5
21	Nxd6	Qf6
22	Nc4	Bd7
23	Nb6	f4
24	Ob3	Rab8
25	Rae1	Bg4
26	h3	Bh5
27	c4	f3
28	c5	Re8
29	d6+	Kh8
30	Rxe8+	Rxe8
31	gxf3	Qh4
32	f4	Re1
33	Rxe1	Qxe1+
34	Kg2	Bg6
35	f5	Bxf5
36	Qb2	Be4+
37	Kh2	Qh1+
38	Kg3	Qf3+
39	Kh2	Qf4+
40	Kg1	Qg3+

White resigns

Diagram of final position



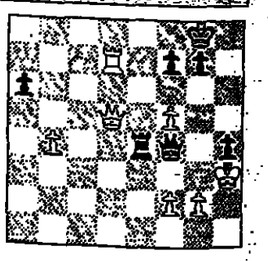
The leading scores, out of 11, at Belgrade were: Boris Gelfand (Belorussia) and Vladimir Kramnik (Russia) 8 points; Alexei Shirov (Latvia) 6.5; Veselin Topalov (Bulgaria) 6. Michael Adams, of Great Britain, finished with 5.5.

☐ Raymond Keene writes on chess Monday to Friday in Sport and in the Weekend section on Saturday.

WINNING MOVE

By Raymond Keene

This position is from the game Tarjan — Karpov, Skopje 1976. In today's puzzle, we see then world champion Anatoly Karpov tightening the noose around his opponent's exposed king. Can you spot Black's winning continuation?



Solution on page 39

هكذا من الأصل

Mental patient's detention remedy

In re S-C (Mental patient: Habeas corpus)

Before Sir Thomas Bingham, Master of the Rolls, Lord Justice Neill and Lord Justice Hirst

[Judgment November 22]

Where a mental patient sought to impugn the lawfulness of his admission to and detention in hospital on the ground that the application made under section 3 of the Mental Health Act 1983, on which his admission and detention were authorised, had not in fact been completed in accordance with the Act, his challenge lay to jurisdiction and not to any administrative decision. Accordingly, it was appropriate for him to apply for issue of a writ of habeas corpus.

The Court of Appeal so held, on the hearing of an appeal by the patient from Mr Justice Turner who had dismissed his application for the issue of a writ of habeas corpus ad subjiciendum following his admission for treatment in and detention at Victoria Hospital, Blackpool.

Since Blackpool, Wyre and Fylde Community Health Service NHS Trust, the authority responsible for the hospital, were not before the court, the matter was adjourned to enable them to show cause why the patient should not be released from their control.

On July 10, 1995 the patient was admitted to and detained in hospital under section 3 of the 1983 Act pursuant to an application for treatment made by an approved social worker employed by Lancashire County Council. At that time the patient's nearest relative, within the meaning of the Act, was his father who was known by the approved social worker to be such and to object to the application.

On the application form, the approved social worker stated that she had consulted the patient's mother who, to the best of her knowledge and belief, was his nearest relative and that the mother had not objected to the application being made.

Following admission and detention, founded on that application which appeared to be properly completed, the patient was transferred to a different hospital for which Warrington Community Health Care was responsible, re-transferred to the Victoria and later placed on home leave.

Mr James Bonney, QC and Mr Timothy Ryder for the patient; Mr James McKeon for Warrington Community Health Care; Mr Rahinder Singh for the local authority.

THE MASTER OF THE ROLLS said that as everyone was well aware no adult citizen of the United Kingdom was liable to be confined in any institution against his will, save by the authority of law.

His Lordship referred to the obvious situations in which the law sanctioned detention, such as in the cases of those suspected or convicted of crime and of those who were unlawful immigrants.

But in each situation the powers to arrest and detain were closely prescribed, by statute and the common law in the first case, and by primary and subordinate legislation in the second.

Mental patients presented a special problem since they might be liable, as a result of mental illness, to cause injury to themselves or others, but the very illness which was the source of the danger might deprive the sufferer of the insight to ensure access to proper medical care.

His Lordship referred to the panoply of statutory powers combined with detailed safeguards prescribed by the Act for the protection of such a patient who might in appropriate circumstances involuntarily be admitted to and detained in hospital.

He referred in detail to the requirements of the Act and, in particular:

(i) To section 3 which authorised admission and detention pursuant to an application made in accordance with that section and on the recommendation of two registered medical practitioners;

(ii) To section 11(1) which provided that an application might be made either by the patient's nearest relative, or by an approved social worker;

(iii) To section 11(4) which provided that an application was not to be made by an approved social worker where the nearest relative had notified that social worker, or the relevant local social services authority, that he objected to the application being made, and that no application was to be made by such a social worker except after consultation with the person appearing to be the nearest relative;

(iv) To section 6(1) and (2) by which an application duly completed in accordance with the Act was sufficient authority for the patient to be conveyed to the hospital and the hospital managers to detain him; and

(v) To section 6(3) whereby any application which appeared to be duly made and to be founded on the necessary medical recommendations might be acted on without further proof of the matters contained in the application.

His Lordship said that section 6 plainly protected the hospital. It was not obliged to act like a private detective but could take the documents at face value. Provided they appeared to conform with the requirements of the statute the hospital was entitled to act on them.

On July 10, 1995 the approved social worker knew that the patient's nearest relative was his father, that he objected to the application, that the mother therefore was not the nearest relative and accordingly did not have such rights.

Any delegation of the father's role was required to be in writing, see regulation 14 of the Mental Health (Hospital, Guardianship and Consent to Treatment) Regulations [SI 1983 No 893] and, as the approved social worker knew, there was no written document by the father authorising the mother to act in his place or delegating his role to her.

The approved social worker's statement on the application form was accordingly entirely false.

Mr Bonney's argument was essentially:

1 The nearest relative objected to the patient's admission and detention.

2 No order was made overriding the nearest relative's right to object.

3 The application was made despite the prohibition in section 11(4).

4 It was accordingly not in pursuance of an application made in accordance with section 3.

5 There was therefore no authority to detain the patient.

6 Since the patient sought to show an absence of jurisdiction, not to overturn an administrative decision, habeas corpus was an appropriate remedy.

Mr Singh, acknowledging that the patient's detention was unlawful on July 10, questioned the appropriateness of the remedy of habeas corpus and invited the court to proceed by way of judicial review.

His Lordship referred to *R v Secretary of State for the Home Department, Ex parte Muboyayi* ([1992] QB 244, 254, 267-268), where the applicant's challenge had lain to an underlying administrative decision to deport him, not to the jurisdiction to detain under the Immigration Act 1971.

From those passages it plainly followed that the present case was one in which, in principle, an application for habeas corpus was appropriate. There was no attempt to overturn any administrative decision, the object simply being to show that there never had been jurisdiction to detain the patient in the first place. That was a fact which, on agreed evidence, appeared to be plainly made out.

His Lordship also referred to *R v Managers of South Western Hospital, Ex parte M* ([1993] QB 683, 700) where Mr Justice Laws had found that the requirements of section 11(4) of the 1983 Act had not been followed, but that the hospital managers had been entitled to act on the application by virtue of section 6(3) and had concluded that the detention was not unlawful.

His Lordship found that conclusion a non sequitur. It was perfectly possible that the hospital managers were entitled to act on an apparently valid application, but that the detention was in fact unlawful. Otherwise the implications would be horrifying.

It would mean that an application which appeared to be in order would render the detention of a citizen lawful even though it had been shown or admitted that the approved social worker purporting to make the application was not so, that the registered medical practitioners, whose recommendations had founded the application, were not so and had not signed the recommendations, that the approved social worker had not consulted the nearest relative, or had done so and that that relative had objected.

In other words, it would mean that the detention was lawful even though every statutory safeguard built into the procedure was shown to have been ignored or violated.

Bearing in mind what was at stake that conclusion was wholly unacceptable. On present facts an application for habeas corpus was an, and possibly even the appropriate course to pursue.

Lord Justice Neill delivered a concurring judgment and Lord Justice Hirst agreed with both judgments.

Solicitors: Roland, Robinsons & Fentons, Blackpool; Hill Dickinson Davis Campbell, Liverpool; Mr Gordon Johnson, Preston.

Judge can discharge his costs order

In re Freudiana Holdings Ltd

Before Lord Justice Rose, Lord Justice Millett and Lord Justice Thorpe

[Judgment November 28]

A judge was entitled to conclude that a wasted costs application which alleged improper and negligent behaviour by legal advisers and which required a full scale relitigation of the issues in the original trial should not proceed.

Wasted costs orders were an imperfect means for seeking to control excess by the legal profession. The remedy lay in the hands of the legal profession itself which needed to relearn, or reapply, the skill of presenting to the court the few crucial determinative points and discarding minor points and excessive detail.

The Court of Appeal so held dismissing an appeal by Mr Brian Brolly against the decision of Mr Justice Jonathan Parker in the Chancery Division on June 16, 1994 to discharge his order of April 30, 1993 requiring the respondents to show cause, pursuant to Order 62, rule 11(4) of the Rules of the Supreme Court, why wasted costs orders should not be made against them in respect of Mr Brolly's costs of cross-petitions between himself and Mr Eric Woolfson under section 459 of the Companies Act 1985.

The respondents to the application were the solicitors and counsel who formerly acted for Mr Woolfson. Judgment on the cross-petitions was delivered on March 24, 1993, following a trial lasting 165 days. Mr Woolfson dispensed with his legal advisors on day 85 and thereafter conducted his case in person.

Mr Edward Nugee, QC and Mr Victor Joffe for Mr Brolly; Mr Ian Croxford, QC and Mr Charles Turnbull for the solicitors; Mr A. Gordon Pollock, QC and Mr George Leggatt for leading and junior counsel.

LORD JUSTICE ROSE said that at the end of the original trial the judge had found that Mr Woolfson's solicitors had assisted him in building a trumped-up case designed to mislead the court.

He said that in giving a 15 to 20 day estimate of length Mr Woolfson's leading counsel had seriously misled the court and he criticised the lack of a proper degree of selectivity on the part of the lawyers.

The judge had then made an order requiring Mr Woolfson's counsel and solicitors to show cause why wasted costs orders should not be made against them. Draft points of claim were prepared by Mr Brolly's advisers running to 40 pages and founded on criticisms the judge had made.

Subsequently, the respondents sought an order that the wasted costs application be heard by another judge. At the same time the judge considered whether it was appropriate for the application to be heard at all.

The judge concluded that it was out of the question for another judge to hear the application as that would inevitably involve a rehearing of the original litigation.

The judge said that if he were to hear the application and Mr Brolly was allowed to rely on the findings in the judgment that would give rise to serious prejudice to the respondents. Accordingly, the judge concluded that the application should proceed no further.

Mr Brolly submitted that the judge's order was a negation of justice in depriving him of a remedy under Order 62, rule 11(4) despite the prima facie appearance, in the light of the judge's earlier indications, of improper and negligent behaviour.

He said that it was not right that the respondents should escape having to show cause because they had made the case too complicated for a proper adjudication. The judge could have heard the application and controlled its ambit to bring it within the summary procedure that the authorities required.

In his Lordship's judgment it was not the respondents' advisers but Mr Brolly's advisers who had made the wasted costs application unmanageable, partly by the sheer number of allegations and partly by relying on allegations of dishonesty and the deliberate misleading of the court.

Such allegations were bound, if in issue, to evoke a detailed response and a full investigation of the kind for which summary wasted costs proceedings were unsuitable, particularly so where numerous matters of fact were in issue. No offer to prune the number of allegations was made before the judge.

Whether there should be a wasted costs hearing was clearly a matter for the judge's discretion. In his Lordship's judgment, unless the proceedings could take place in summary form on or very soon after judgment they were unlikely to be appropriate.

The judge had been right to rule that the wasted costs application could not be dealt with by another judge; that would have led to a retrying of the whole litigation. Further, his Lordship was not persuaded, in the circumstances, that the judge had been wrong in disqualifying himself from hearing the application.

It should almost always be for the trial judge to adjudicate on a wasted costs application, even though his substantive judgment might have contained criticisms of those who were the subject of the application.

However, the respondents had been criticised by the judge without being given an opportunity to make representations. The judge's express findings were not couched in provisional terms and amounted to grave allegations striking at the heart of the respondents' professional standing. Therefore this was an exceptional case where it might have been difficult to achieve an appearance of fairness.

His Lordship wished to conclude with some comments of general application. Wasted costs orders were an imperfect means for seeking to control excess by the legal profession. They provided the courts with a tool which in some cases was equal to the task but which in many cases was inadequate.

However, the real remedy lay in the hands of the legal profession itself. The proper conduct of litigation did not require every point to be taken, it required all those involved to concentrate on the vital issues in the case.

The legal profession must relearn, or reapply, the skill which was the historic hallmark of the profession but which appeared to be fast vanishing: to present to the court the few crucial determinative points and to discard as immaterial dross the minor points and excessive detail.

LORD JUSTICE MILLETT, concurring, said that it would have been impossible to have a summary hearing of Mr Brolly's allegations. Such a hearing would have involved a full scale relitigation of the issues in the original litigation with the added issue of the lawyers' knowledge and participation. That was quite unsuited for a wasted costs application; it required a fresh action.

LORD JUSTICE THORPE, concurring, said that he did not think that the judge had been right to disqualify himself from hearing the application.

However, given the passage of time since the order was made and the way the application had developed, his Lordship thought that the conclusion that the application could not proceed was inevitable.

Solicitors: Frere Cholmeley Bischoff; Barlow Lyde & Gilbert; Freshfields.

No judgment on theoretical problem

Wyko Group plc and Others v Cooper Roller Bearings Co Ltd

Before Mr Justice Ferris

[Judgment November 17]

The court would not grant declaratory relief on theoretical questions. Where facts which could found a cause of action had not even come into existence, a declaration made in relation to them could only be in answer to a theoretical question and would not be made.

Mr Justice Ferris so held in a reserved judgment in the Chancery Division given in chambers but reported with the leave of the judge, dismissing an appeal from Master Barratt who, on May 9, 1995, had struck out the claim of the Wyko Group plc and two other companies against Cooper Roller Bearing Co Ltd as disclosing no cause of action.

Mr Alexander Drysdale Wilson for the Wyko Group; Mr Mark Platts Mills, QC, for Coopers.

MR JUSTICE FERRIS said that the Wyko Group wished to manufacture split roller bearings and associated products similar to those made by Cooper. Before expending money on such a venture, however, they wished to know whether Cooper would have a claim in copyright against them.

If Cooper were to bring a copyright action against them they intended to rely on the defence relating to replacement parts which succeeded in *British Leyland Motor Corporation Ltd v Armstrong Patents Co Ltd* ([1986] AC 577). There remained considerable doubt about the ambit of that defence.

Accordingly Wyko commenced the present action with a view to obtaining what was, in effect, a declaration of non-liability. Cooper responded by saying that no such declaration was obtainable under English law and had been successful in persuading Master Barratt to strike out Wyko's action.

Under Order 15, rule 16 of the Rules of the Supreme Court "No action or other proceeding shall be open to objection on the ground that a merely declaratory judgment or order is sought thereby...". That had been the rule since 1883.

In *Russian Commercial Bank v British Bank for Foreign Trade* ([1921] 2 AC 438, 448) Lord Dunedin defined the conditions which had to be fulfilled for declaratory relief to be granted:

"The question must be a real and not a theoretical question: the person raising it must have a real interest to raise it: he must be able to secure a proper contradictor, that is to say, some one presently existing who has a true interest to oppose the declaration sought."

His Lordship considered several later authorities including *Gourier v Union of Post Office Workers* ([1978] AC 435, 501), *Camilla Cotton v Granadex* ([1976] 2 Lloyd's Rep 10, 14), *In re F (Mental patient: Sterilisation)* ([1990] 2 AC 1, 81-82), *In re Clay* ([1919] 1 Ch 66) and *Midland Bank v Laker Airways* ([1986] 1 QB 689, 700-701, 710).

The cases constituted a formidable body of authority most of which was against Wyko's claim for the declaration it sought. Mr Drysdale Wilson sought to escape its impact by arguing that the principle on which *In re Clay* was decided was only applicable when the relevant facts were already in existence.

His Lordship found that argument a startling one. If, in relation to facts already in existence, the court would not grant a declaration of non-liability in the absence of a claim by an opposing party that those facts gave rise to a cause of action available to him, he would expect to find that the same rule applied even more strongly when the facts did not at present exist and there not merely was not but could not be such a claim by an opposing party.

The reason why the cases in which the principle applied in *In re Clay* had been held to constitute a bar to declaratory relief were all cases in which the relevant facts already existed was that where those facts did not exist the claim to such relief was open to the even more fundamental objection that the question was not a real one but was theoretical.

That meant that the first of Lord Dunedin's conditions in the *Russian Bank* case was not satisfied, a matter on which his Lordship found Mr Platts Mills' argument to be convincing.

The notion that it was somehow easier to obtain a declaration of non-liability in a case where the facts did not yet exist than in a case where they existed and were ascertainable was, in his Lordship's judgment, impossible to reconcile with the general statements of Lord Diplock in *Gourier* and Lord Wilberforce in *Camilla Cotton*.

Moreover, all the cases cited in which the power to grant declaratory relief was upheld were cases where the declaration related to the legal consequences of existing facts.

Thus in the *Russian Bank* case the English bank needed to know whether, on the facts as they stood and which were immutable, a loan was payable in sterling or in roubles. In *Camilla Cotton* the contracts had been made some time previously and the events said to constitute breaches of those contracts had already occurred. In *In re F* Lord Goff stated (at p81): "the declaration asked relates to the position as matters stand at present."

His Lordship agreed with Mr Platts Mills' argument that the first and third of Lord Dunedin's conditions were not satisfied. It followed that the writ and statement of claim in the action sought relief which the court could not or would not grant. He did not explore further the question whether the point was one of jurisdiction or discretion.

Master Barratt was quite right to make the order which he did make. The appeal should be dismissed.

Solicitors: Foster Baxter Cooksey, Wolverhampton; Mills & Reeve, Cambridge.

Qualification saves car mileage figure

Regina v Bull

Before Lord Justice Swinton Thomas, Mr Justice Waterhouse and Mr Justice Harrison

[Judgment November 10]

Where a figure inserted on a sales invoice as a record of the mileage on a car's odometer was qualified by a statement highlighted and placed immediately after that figure, that qualified figure could not properly be regarded as a false trade description.

The Court of Appeal, Criminal Division, so stated when allowing an appeal by Carl Bull against his conviction on June 14, 1995 at Sheffield Crown Court (Mr Recorder Harrow) of applying a false trade description to goods contrary to section 1(1)(a) of the Trade Descriptions Act 1968 for which he was sentenced to a conditional discharge of 12 months.

Mr Bull was charged that in the course of his business as car salesman he applied by means of an odometer reading of 47,526 miles entered on the sales invoice, a false trade description to a Ford Escort car.

Mr John Lodge, assigned by the Registrar for Criminal Appeals, for Mr Bull; Mr Timothy Clayson for the Crown.

MR JUSTICE WATERHOUSE, giving the judgment of the court, said that the trial judge had approached the case on the basis that there had been an application of a trade description to the invoice and had been right to do so.

The argument before the appeal court centred on the allegation of falsity of the trade description. The question was what was the actual trade description in the invoice?

The document contained a box section with the words "Details of vehicle to be sold" and directly below that "Odometer reading". It was clear that Mr Bull had applied to that box the figure 47,526 which was the current reading on the vehicle at the time.

That figure was marked with an asterix, immediately below which were the following words: "Trade Descriptions Act 1968. We have been unable to confirm the mileage on this odometer and therefore it must be considered incorrect."

It was clear on a fair reading that the odometer reading was subject to the asterix. What was being said in plain language was that the vehicle had an odometer with an actual reading of 47,526 miles but that must be incorrect because the dealer had been unable to confirm that mileage.

Mr Lodge submitted that although there had been an applying of a trade description the figure merely recorded what was actually physically shown.

Mr Clayson argued first that the case was one of disclaimer which was ineffective for an offence under section 1(1)(a) rather than 1(1)(b); and second that inclusion of the phrase "We have been unable to confirm..." was itself a false statement because the evidence was that Mr Bull had not taken meaningful steps to ascertain the true mileage. Their Lordships were wholly unimpressed by the latter argument.

More important they did not consider the use of the words "We have been unable to confirm..." meant that the reading on the odometer was incorrect.

The real question was whether or not the qualification of the figure was properly to be regarded as part of the trade description or as a mere disclaimer. It was wrong to approach the case by attempting to put defences into different categories.

It was true in *Newman v Hackney London Borough Council* ([1982] RTR 296) reliance on a disclaimer failed but in very different circumstances from the present.

In their Lordships' judgment, there should have been no case to answer because the prosecution had not established the falsity of the trade description when it was applied by Mr Bull.

Solicitors: Crown Prosecution Service, Headquarters.

When judge can sit beyond retirement age

Regina v The Lord Chancellor, Ex parte Stockler

Before Lord Justice Staughton and Mr Justice Rougier

[Judgment November 24]

An acting judge was an office holder so that any unfinished business could be conducted by him even though he was prohibited by age from acting in a judicial capacity.

The Queen's Bench Divisional Court so held when dismissing an application by William Thomas Stockler for judicial review of the decision of the Lord Chancellor to permit and/or instruct Sir Mervyn Davies to sit as a judge of the High Court after April 1, 1995 in a part-heard action in the Chancery Division in which the applicant was the unsuccessful plaintiff.

Sir Mervyn, who was aged 77 at the relevant time, was sitting by virtue of section 9(1) of the Supreme Court Act 1981. The Judicial Pensions and Retirement Act 1993 which fixed the maximum retiring age for all judges at 75, came into force on March 31, 1995.

Although, section 9(1A) of the 1981 Act, as inserted by paragraph 5(1) of Schedule 6 to the 1993 Act, fixed the retirement age of an acting judge, that Act did not provide for such judges continuing to hear a case beyond that age.

Section 27(1) of the 1993 Act made provision for persons holding an office before the retirement age being able to complete hearing a case after the retirement age had been reached.

Sir Mervyn had heard part of the case and delivered judgment subsequent to April 1, 1995. The applicant contended, inter alia, that the 1993 Act prohibited Sir Mervyn from completing hearing the case because the post of acting judge was not an office for the purposes of section 27(1).

Mr Michael Supperstone, QC and Mr Nigel Porter for the applicant; Mr Ian Burnett for the Lord Chancellor; Mr John Powles for Peter Myles Moran, an interested party, the successful defendant in the Chancery action.

LORD JUSTICE STAUGHTON accepted that the post of acting judge under section 9 was not a relevant office within section 26(7) of the 1993 Act because it was not there described as an office. But then one saw to section 27(4).

That subsection was convoluted but said that the prohibition on being an acting judge was to be treated as a prohibition on holding an office. The result was that section 27(1) did apply to an acting judge under section 9 of the 1981 Act. Section 27(1) provided a loophole through which, by section 27(4), an acting judge could pass.

Despite the applicant's argument, the proceedings after March 31, 1995 were not held coram non judice but were authorised by section 27.

MR JUSTICE ROUGIER, agreeing, said that the effect of section 27(4) was to embrace all those performing judicial activities in section 26(7). The application was a singularly unattractive one which seemed to his Lordship to be a tactical device to obtain a rehearing.

Solicitors: Stockler Charity; Treasury Solicitor; Chatterton, Horncastle.

Child Support Agency figures helpful

E v C

Before Mr Justice Douglas Brown

[Judgment October 25]

On an application to vary maintenance, justices ought to make an inquiry as to what the result of an application to the Child Support Agency would be, which although not binding, would be strongly persuasive.

Mr Justice Douglas Brown so held in the Family Division in allowing an appeal brought by the father against the decision of the Bexley Family Proceedings Court on April 27, 1995 in reducing an order of maintenance of £5 a week for each of two children to a nominal order of £1 a year for each child, so long as the father remained unemployed and in receipt of benefit.

Mr Gary Crawley for the father; Mr Paul A. Hopkins for the mother.

MR JUSTICE DOUGLAS BROWN said that the father had a new family and new responsibilities and should not be the subject of a crippling order. Where he was, by way of government benefits, on fair subsistence, any order which deducted from that was an order which put him into difficulty.

His Lordship thought the justices might usefully have asked themselves what the Child Support Agency assessment would have been in the circumstances, although they were not bound to, but it was the practice of professional judges to make that inquiry, and it would have been helpful to the justices if they had done so.

In the present case they would have seen, if they had been given information, that the order that they were making would be likely to do a financial injustice to the father.

In the present case it was common ground that, based on the circumstances of the two families, a nil assessment would have been produced.

While that assessment was not binding on the justices it would have been strongly persuasive had they known about it and it would have been likely that they would not have made the orders that they did.

Solicitors: Nelson Guest & Partners, Sidcup; Thos Boyd White, Bexleyheath.

Correction

In *Arthur v Anker* (*The Times* December 1) it should have been made clear that the High Court of Justiciary in *Black v Carmichael* held that private wheel clampers in Scotland were guilty of extortion and of theft.

COLLECT 30 TOKENS FOR A CHANCE TO WIN £20,000 FOR AN 80-DAY HOLIDAY



Win a 7-day trip to Disneyland

The Times and *The Sunday Times*, are offering readers the chance to win one of 80 holidays for two, plus 10 per cent discounts, to a range of destinations throughout the world.

Today's prize is a seven-night break for two worth more than £1,000 to Anaheim, home to Disneyland, with its new Indiana Jones Adventure, and Knotts Berry Farm where you will find California's longest roller coaster. You will stay at the two-star Best Western Pavilions, close to the park and with a free shuttle bus. You will also be given a three-day pass for two.

If you like your entertainment to be loud, fun and open-air, Anaheim is perfect. The new Spanish Island Adventure in the Raging Waters complex has waterslides, water cannons and wave machines. You can also enjoy trips to Newport beach.

DEPARTURES: Jan 1 and March 28, or between April 11 and 30, 1996. Price from £422, down from £469 per person, with our 10% discount..

To win today's holiday, answer the question below and phone our competition hotline: 0891 40 50 34, open until midnight tonight. The winner will be chosen at random from all correct entries. Normal *Times* Newspapers competition rules apply.

Q. Who played Indiana Jones?

Calls are charged at 39p per minute cheap rate and 49p at all other times.

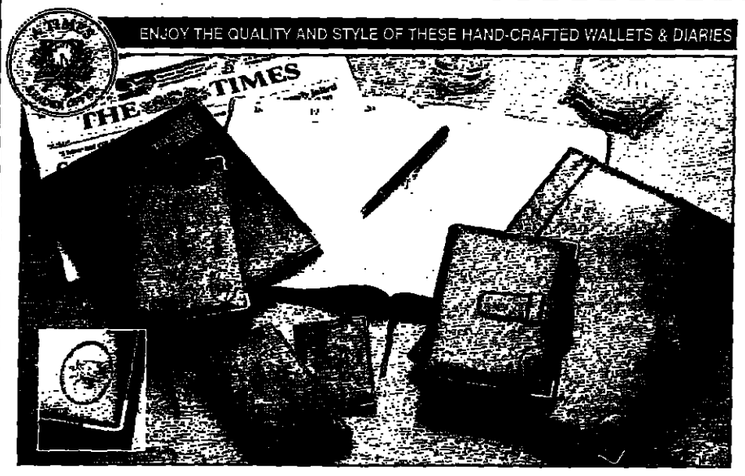
THE TIMES Around the World in 80 Days £20,000 TOKEN 57

UNITED VACATIONS UNITED AIRLINES

United Vacations offers readers 10% discount on today's holiday and all the holidays featured this week. The price covers flights, shared double room and entry to Disneyland. For a brochure call:

01369 707711

ENJOY THE QUALITY AND STYLE OF THESE HAND-CRAFTED WALLETS & DIARIES



Executive leather collection

For readers who enjoy quality, *The Times* offers a collection of wallets and diaries, hand-stitched using the finest leathers. All items are available in black, embossed with *The Times*. Make your selection from the following:

● **Executive diaries:** the desk diary and its pocket equivalent come in either deep-grain Montana leather or smooth Napoli hide. The diary pages are printed in burgundy and grey type on top quality cream paper with gilt edging, and have perforated corners so you can easily access the current week.

The diaries have a 13-month week-on-two-pages (12 month in the pocket version), a burgundy ribbon marker, year planner, three-year forward planner, pages for expenses and staff holidays and 16 pages of world maps in colour. They measure 256mm x 210mm and 174mm x 84mm. Prices: Napoli desk £59.00, Napoli pocket £25.00, Montana desk £39.00, and Montana pocket £15.00.

All accessories are made in high-quality smooth black hide and lined with water-marked moire and blonde pigskin.

● **A4 conference folder:** two-fold executive case, measuring 315mm x 235mm. Features a leather-edged pocket for an A4 pad, two pen loops, two business card pockets, a large half pocket for loose documents, and a press-stud tab fastener. Price £55.00

● **International travel wallet:** stylishly-made and accepts the classic large UK passport as well as all other sizes. Complete with full-width rear pocket for air tickets and other travel documents, a coin purse, four credit card pockets, a zipped pocket for travellers' cheques and receipts, a jotter notes section and pen loop. Measures 187mm x 137mm. Price £49.00

● **Business card organiser:** with 16mm silver nickel mechanism, eight alphabet index dividers, 16 removable transparent sleeves for up to 96 cards back-to-back, and a diagonal pocket for loose cards. Measures 200mm x 140mm. Price £31.00

● **Credit card wallet:** incorporates a removable five-pocket quality pvc credit card section, ID window, and two leather card pockets. Meaures 105mm x 75mm. Price £14.00.

The Times Executive Leather Collection

Please send me (enter quantity)

___ Napoli Desk Diary @ £59.00 ___ Montana Desk Diary @ £39.00

___ Napoli Pocket Diary @ £25.00 ___ Montana Pocket Diary @ £15.00

___ A4 Conference Folder @ £55.00 ___ International Travel Wallet @ £49.00

___ Business Card Organiser @ £31.00 ___ Credit Card Wallet @ £14.00

Name (Mr/Mrs/Ms) _____

Address _____

_____ Postcode _____

I enclose cheque/PO(s) payable to *The Times* FT505

Value _____ No _____

Please write name and address on back of all cheques

Or debit my Sunday Times Visa/ Access/ Visa card no

Print Name _____ Exp. Date _____

Signature _____ Date _____

Send coupon and remittance to: Executive Diary Offer, *The Times* FT505, PO Box 333, Leighton Buzzard, Beds LU7 7ZD

Allow 28 days for delivery from receipt of order. The offer is available in the UK only. No claims for loss in transit can be made after 60 days. The Times cannot be responsible for returned goods lost in transit. The offer is subject to availability. All orders received by Friday 8 December will be despatched in time for Christmas.

Please tick box if you do not wish to receive future offers from *The Times* or companies approved by them. ☐

ORDER BY PHONE: 01525 851945

As the Charter Mark Awards celebrate their fourth year, **Edward Fennell** introduces a report on the winners and losers

The Charter finds its teeth

After three years of solid but low-key achievement, the annual Charter Mark Awards have suddenly caught fire as a focus of controversy and recrimination.

A couple of weeks ago, British Gas announced that it was withdrawing from the scheme on the grounds that it was no longer appropriate for its new structure. Insiders, however, said that the company jumped before it was pushed. Then, just a few days later, news leaked out that no Charter Marks were being renewed for any of the water companies.

The fact that so much acrimony had entered into these public awards was evidence that they had come to mean something valuable. Reputations have been injured and complacency has been shaken. Now, in its fourth year, the Charter Mark initiative has matured. There are losers as well as winners. And the Judging Panel, led by Lord Blyth, has shown that it has teeth and is not afraid to use them to tear at the reputation of the complacent.

So as this year's winners gather today at Westminster for the awards ceremony, they can be satisfied that their achievements are well deserved. It is the Cinderellas who are going to the ball, not the Ugly Sisters. As you scan the names for award winners it is the little organisations which stand out, such as Greenwich Leisure Services, a worker-owned co-operative, the Preston Disablement Services Centre, Swale Borough Council Cleansing Services Unit, and the Walsall Arboretum.

Their stories reflect real improvement and provision of quality services at the local level. The Charter Mark gives them an opportunity to achieve recognition on the national stage, but tomorrow they will go back to the unglamorous but essential job of serving their communities.

The reason why Charter Mark has hit the headlines, however, stems from the determination of the judges, who make the recommendations to the Prime Minister for the awards, to give real credibility to the mark.

Charter Marks are given to public sector organisations and regulated private utilities which have both reached well-defined standards of public service and impressed the judges by the quality of their performance. The catch is that Charter Marks are awarded for three years and holders must then apply to be reassessed. To be successful on the reassessment it is not enough to have maintained the previous standard. Further progress is required. So a number of organisations — including, ironically, the Queen Elizabeth II Conference Centre, which is hosting this year's event — will not be collecting awards.

In the case of the water companies some were rejected entirely, others were put on hold for a year. These unpopular decisions reflected a determination by the judges that Charter Mark should be regarded as a precious award. Drop your standards and it will be taken away from you.



Making headlines: Cedric Brown of British Gas, which pulled out of the Awards; and two of the judges who are determined to give the Charter Mark credibility

Why it pays to listen

The British are said to be a nation of professional complainers. One of the aims of the Charter movement is to encourage them to complain more professionally. A key criterion for Charter Mark success is devoted to "putting things right" and aspirant Charter Mark holders must show that they operate effective complaints procedures.

Mike Hancock, a former MP and now leader of Hampshire County Council, is a late convert to the Charter Mark movement and still wants the initiative to have much sharper teeth. But his authority won an award this year and Mr Hancock regards the complaints dimension as being potentially the most valuable part of the whole framework.

"Too often users of public services are unhappy about the way they are treated but do not do anything about it — perhaps because they think it is a waste of time," he says. "If the Charter Mark movement is helping to encourage more effective complaints and encouraging local authorities to be more responsive then I think it is worthwile."

Hampshire has been active in setting up systems to make it easier for its residents to complain. An international conference on disability rights recently gave pride of place to the positive policy operated by the county to encourage local people to complain about the services they received.

Probably the person on the Charter Mark Judging Panel who is most tuned into the importance of complaints procedures is Lady Wilcox, who, among many other activities, runs the National Consumer Council. In approaching public services her philosophy is straightforward. "Make the consumer sovereign," she says.

Her view is that there have been marked improvements in many aspects of the public sector services and that this is due not just to better management and better training but also because there is a greater awareness of the importance of the "customer."

One likely looking Charter Mark winner this year was failed because when the judges visited some typical offices they were disappointed at the way the public were treated. The systems were right but the staff attitudes on the front line were still adrift.

Seeking smaller at the time

This year's list of Charter Mark winners differs from its predecessors. Whereas big public utilities used to predominate, now the small units in local government, in the education service and in the NHS have come up trumps.

A typical example is the success of the City of Liverpool's Trading Standards Services. With an eye to the dramatic, the service has already been featured on television and has masterminded the first nationwide crackdown on dealers in uncensored videos, investigated football ticket touts, fought underage cigarette and alcohol sales, and contributed to the withdrawal of a teenage chatline.

Peter Mawdsley, who heads the service, says customer satisfaction — around 90 per cent — showed what could be done with good management and a clear customer focus.

Another success for local government lay in Greenwich, where two awards were won by the Homeless Services Department and Leisure Services, which are both characterised by down-to-earth management accompanied by high aspirations and determination to succeed.

Panel members also believe education has one of the most positive stories to tell. A rarity among early Charter Mark winners, schools are now well-represented. Lady Perry, the president of Lucy Cavendish College, Cambridge, took a particular interest in these entries: "The number of winners from education this year reflects the kind of improvements we are seeing in examination successes and shows that there are now many schools delivering high quality education."

Health panel member Angela Heylin, the chief executive of consultancy Charles Barker, said successful NHS reforms had resulted in a tremendous release of energy and imagination. By devolving greater power to people at the front line to run their own local services, there was the possibility of a much more patient-oriented service.

Also striking in the list of winners is the number of small Benefits Agencies. The tendency within Charter Mark now is to recognise service-delivery at the most local level.

An exception is London Electricity. Not only has it achieved a good record on its complaints but, as it proudly boasts, it has not, since January 1994, disconnected a single residential customer in debt.

Another unusual winner is the legalisation office in the Foreign Office. This is the FCO's only public office in the UK and its staff help British companies and individuals get established in new markets. Despite difficult times recently, the Prison Service still has a couple of establishments on this year's list.

Charter Mark will increasingly becoming a standard for the many rather than the preserve of the few. It will also be the case that while a service may be going through a rough patch, it will still be possible for individual units to continue to deliver to high standards — or to escape their history.

Pride of place must probably go to the Passport Office for re-emerging as a sleek and efficient organisation which now issues passports in time for this year's holiday, not next's.

Seeking Excellence

Since we were formed in 1991, we have single mindedly set ourselves one goal - to give our customers the best possible service.

We're delighted to receive our two Charter Marks in South Lancashire/ Cheshire and Devon and Cornwall.

They mark our progress so far.



CONTRIBUTIONS AGENCY
An Executive Agency of the Department of Social Security

But don't expect us to rest on our laurels - this simply marks the end of the beginning.

Northamptonshire Libraries and Information Service

The Charter Mark Award has been achieved through our commitment to quality standards, value for money and innovative service standards

Northamptonshire County Council
Libraries and Information Service

Lewisham

The Triple Crown Council

Lewisham Council congratulates its three services which have won 1995 Charter Marks

- Social Services Care 1st
- Finance Revenue and Benefits Division
- Wavelengths Leisure Centre

Taken together with previous winners this means 2,000 Lewisham Council Staff now work in sections which have won CharterMarks .....

Awarded for excellence

BEHIND EVERY GREAT COUNCIL THERE'S A GREAT COUNSELLOR.

KPMG would like to congratulate The London Borough of Ealing on being awarded four Charter Marks by the Government. This is an unprecedented achievement and a reflection of the high quality of services they have provided across these four areas: Council Tax, Residential Homes, W13 Social Club and Building Control. As one of their major advisors, we shall be continuing to provide them with an equally high standard of service in the future.

Ealing

KPMG means business



Awarded for excellence

We are proud and delighted to have been awarded the Charter Mark. The only privatised careers advisory service in England to receive this recognition for Excellence of Service.

ESSEX Careers & Business Partnership Limited

Head Office: Kensal House, Chelmsford, Essex CM2 6TQ
Tel: 01245 348552 Fax: 01245 283407
A company controlled by Essex County Council

INVESTOR IN PEOPLE

Award Winning Doctor says to Prisoners

"Loss of liberty is enough, don't pay with your life"

There is no need to:

- Swallow razor blades or batteries
- Slash wrist or attempt hanging
- Bully or abuse drugs

AWARDED FOR EXCELLENCE

We can help and we will help

Just talk with

- The Officers
- The Probation Staff
- The Chaplain
- The Doctor

Sponsored by College of Prison Medicine

DDC



DAVENTRY DISTRICT COUNCIL
REVENUE SERVICES DEPARTMENT

CERTIFICATE NO: FS31899

Providing a high quality service in the Daventry district for the collection of Council Tax, Business Rates and Housing Rents & the payment of Housing Benefit.

We are proud to have received a 1995 Charter Mark award as recognition of the high quality of service achieved.

Awarded for excellence

The following companies are delighted to share in our success:

ACADEMY INFORMATION SYSTEMS
ACADEMY INFORMATION SYSTEMS
Manvers House
Manvers Street
Trowbridge
Wiltshire
BA14 8YX
Telephone: (01225) 773000

The leading suppliers of Windows Based Revenues software to Local Government

imasys
IMASYS
Imasys Limited
Imasys House
24 Exchange Quay
Salford
M5 3EQ
Telephone: (0161) 876 6446

Leading suppliers of Document Management solutions

BARONY CONSULTING LIMITED
Public Sector Management Consultants
Southgate Office Village
286c Chase Road
Southgate
London N14 6HF
Telephone: (0181) 8826412

Consultants to the winning team

MADAGANS
MADAGANS
42-44 Henry Street
Northampton NN1 4JE
Telephone: (01604) 604591

the leaders in nationwide financial recovery

هذا من الاصل

Out of sight but not out of mind

Lucy Hodges on a college where blindness is no barrier to study

Kate Harrison is a resilient girl studying four A levels in maths, further maths, physics and psychology at Winstanley sixth-form college outside Wigan.

What is unusual about her is that she is blind, and has been since birth.

"She is a determined student who makes no concessions to her disability and involves herself fully in the life of the college," says her principal, Dennis Lavelle.

His college has won a Charter Mark for the service it provides to its 1,300 students, including 15-year-old Kate. Finding that no textbooks were available in Braille at the level and in the subjects she was studying, it set about translating them for her with a £12,000 grant from the Further Education Funding Council, and with the help of the Wigan Service for the Visually Impaired.

The college is also notable for its up-and-down appraisal system, whereby teachers assess students and students rate teachers. Students are given questionnaires to fill in three times during their studies at the college, in which they give a score to the service provided. They are asked to rate the guidance service, the teaching and how homework is handled.

"What has made it acceptable is that students give the teachers very high grades," says Mr Lavelle, who is not bashful about extolling his college's virtues. In the Further Education Funding Council's evaluations, Winstanley comes out top for teaching.

Two city technology colleges have won awards this year. One is Dixons City Technology College in Bradford, West Yorkshire, set up five years ago with funding from the Dixons electrical chain. This college has set up innovative schemes with Marks & Spencer and Dixons to give their management trainees real-life problems to solve.

In return, the college receives the help of people being trained by some of Britain's biggest companies.

In the case of Marks & Spencer, the college wanted help in evaluating its induction programme for teachers. "We wanted somebody with an outside perspective to tell us how successful our induction scheme was and whether we could improve it," says college principal John Lewis. "We thought that if the agency was a company with a renowned reputation for customer service, we could not get much better."



Braille textbooks help blind A-level pupil Kate Harrison

In the event, M&S trainees were impressed by the staff induction but suggested ways in which it could be fine-tuned, according to Mr Lewis.

There are 15 city technology colleges, established under a Conservative government initiative to boost education in the inner cities and emphasise technology through close links with companies.

Another Charter Mark winner is Thomas Telford school, a city technology college in Shropshire, which is notable for putting its curriculum on to a computer network.

The school, which has more than 1,000 pupils and opened five years ago, began to put its curriculum on computer three years ago. It was a mammoth undertaking because so much detail had to be input — there are 12 modules planned over a 40-week year.

Today students can switch on their computers, press a button and find out where they are in a given course, and what the next task is.

"For the particularly keen student this is useful," says deputy head Mike Douch. "High fliers might be held back by the teacher needing to work at a slower pace with the rest of the class, but with this system they can move along."

Thomas Telford school also has a television network which enables all classes to see a recorded broadcast from the head or one of the deputies on screen each week.

"It is like an assembly but hopefully more lively," says Mr Douch.

Clean bill for health

Sight, sound and smell therapy is among the fresh approaches being taken to extend NHS efficiency

How about this for soothing the nerves? You sit in a relaxed position, listening to hypnotic, rhythmical music while sniffing lavender aroma and gazing at clouds projected onto the wall, *Lucy Hodges writes.*

That is an alternative therapy being offered to elderly patients with dementia or other mental health problems in community homes in Dorset. The great thing is that it works, according to Lesley Ann Wareing, head occupational therapist at Dorset HealthCare NHS Trust. "We found it helped agitated and aggressive people become relaxed," she explains.

The introduction of the therapy, called "Snoezelen", which originated in Holland, has helped to win Dorset HealthCare a Charter Mark. Patients sit in a specially designed room containing a "multisensory" environment which includes music and scents, fibre-optic lights, a mirror ball which projects light on to the walls, and a tube which shoots out bubbles.

Use of the therapy is supported by research carried out in Dorset. Health workers found that elderly patients who were agitated and aggressive or completely unresponsive in the long-stay wards, became more engaged with the world after a spell in the Snoezelen room. "We feel we are giving them some quality of life," says Mrs Wareing.



Dorset's use of the Dutch Snoezelen therapy has contributed to its Charter Mark

Another winner, the Royal Marsden NHS Trust, is improving patients' lives through the telephone clinic it uses as an alternative to the conventional outpatient clinic. Instead of hanging around in the waiting room to see a nurse, patients simply sit by the telephone at home.

It is being used for patients who are being treated for brain tumours. While they don't need to see a doctor, they do need support, which can be provided on the telephone.

The Marsden is also introducing a "family history of ovarian cancer clinic" for patients who may be at risk of the disease. There is a small incidence of ovarian cancer associated with genetic abnormalities, and the clinic aims to alert the families concerned and inform them of the need for screening.

There is also a new service for children who have cancer, and their families. In recognition of the importance of these children being properly cared for in their communities, the Marsden is setting up a paediatric community liaison service to give information and advice to the children's GPs, schools and any other local services involved. "It will provide a link between ourselves and the primary or secondary care team," says Alastair Whitington, director of marketing and contracting at the hospital.

The above innovations are good for the patient, but they also improve efficiency. The same goes for the reorganisation undertaken by the Greater Manchester Ambulance Service, another winner. Finding that its ambulances were lying idle because of the few calls received late at night, the service changed shift patterns to have more staff on duty during the day and fewer at night.

"Demand has changed over the last few years so we had to rethink our approach," says Patrick Gormley, the service's general manager. As well as rejigging shift patterns the service is now looking at whether to have vehicles serviced outside normal working hours.

Cardiff Institute of Higher Education

Working with our students to provide excellence in education

CHARTER MARK

ASHFORD
Centre of Excellence

CHARTER MARK

- Excellent communications
- Excellent links with Europe
- Excellent facilities for business
- Excellent workforce

The success of the Borough Council's Local Land Charges team in winning a Charter Mark is just one example of Ashford's commitment to excellence. Next year sees the opening of the International Passenger Station at Ashford, a facility which will allow travellers to be in Paris or Brussels within just two hours, making the town an excellent location for your business.

For more information contact the Chief Executive, Ashford Borough Council, Civic Centre, Tannery Lane, Ashford, Kent TN23 1PL or telephone Mihai Ciubotaru (01233) 637311 ext. 310.

Ashford - an excellent opportunity...

CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL THOSE WHO MADE THEIR MARK.

THIS YEAR, 224 ORGANISATIONS WON A CHARTER MARK - THE OSCAR FOR PUBLIC SERVICES. IF YOU KNOW OF A PUBLIC SERVICE WHICH YOU THINK IS OUTSTANDING AND SHOULD APPLY FOR A CHARTER MARK NEXT YEAR, CALL US ON 0345 22 32 42.

The people's mark of approval.

Police lend an ear to the victims

TRACEY WATTS



A woman police officer from the Devon and Cornwall force counsels a victim

Lucy Hodges on a new initiative to help the public

Important changes are taking place in policing, if this year's Charter Mark is a guide. Increasingly police forces are thinking about the victims of crime.

Devon and Cornwall police, for example, has produced a victim information handbook, thought to be the first of its kind, which is entirely paid for by advertising. It gives police officers' names, the reference number of the victim's case, what should be done for an insurance claim, and telephone numbers of people who will help.

The handbook is a small part of what Devon and Cornwall is doing for victims. Two years ago the force appointed a civilian, Janet Redshaw, as performance and quality manager. All victims' names are referred to her, and she asks them whether they were given what they needed by police officers.

Under the force's charter, policemen have to provide key details such as the name and telephone number of the investigating officer, how the investigation will be handled and how they can go about claiming compensation. All details from victims are fed into a database. "That information goes back to the divisional commanders," said Ms Redshaw. "They can see how well their division is carrying out the charter."

Another Charter Mark winner, Central Scotland, the second smallest force in Scotland, is equally committed to helping victims. Its new strategy dates to 1991, when the crime rate was soaring but money was short. "We told people they also had a responsibility to bring the crime rate down," explained Chief Inspector Colin Mather.

The police went to local authorities and said it wanted to be involved in planning safer communities. "We actually became involved in planning with the schools, social services and women's organisations," said Chief Inspector Mather. "We employ a woman full-time who is wholly engaged in domestic violence, drawing up strategies so we can get to the victims before it is too late."

Today the force can boast a 10 per cent reduction in reported crime and a 58 per cent detection rate. As an experiment it has set up a crime management unit to receive reports of crime and decide how crimes should be handled. In the past a minor crime would lead to visits by three officers — a regular policeman, a detective and a scenes of crime officer. Often visits by all three were unnecessary. "It was inefficient," said Mather.

Kent is another force which works closely with local people, and has won a Charter Mark for the second time. It turned Special Constables into parish constables to increase the number of bobbies on the beat. And more than 60 volunteers have been recruited in Dyfed. Powys, to help to run small community police stations, releasing trained police for other duties at no extra cost.

THE TARGETS THAT MUST BE MET

THE AWARD OF a Charter Mark depends largely on how well the organisation measures up against a series of nine, fairly rigorous, criteria.

Even organisations which are not successful — or decide, on second thoughts, not to enter — say that the Charter Mark criteria provide a toolkit for planning and evaluating services.

Candidates for Charter Marks must:

- Set, monitor and publish standards for the services that users can reasonably expect, and publish performance results.
- Make full information readily available about how public services are run, their costs and performance.
- Provide choice wherever practicable and consult with service users.
- Ensure that services are provided courteously.
- Provide well-publicised and easy-to-use complaints procedures.
- Operate effective and economic public services.
- Secure research-proven user-satisfaction.
- Have introduced demonstrable improvements in service quality in the previous two years.
- Be planning to introduce at least one enhancement to services with no additional costs to taxpayer or user.

Exporting a war against red tape

Customer comes first philosophy is rapidly spreading worldwide

As last week's Budget statement made clear, no one cries when bureaucrats are cut back. The public and politicians worldwide share an innate suspicion that bureaucracy bloats by nature and must be ruthlessly and regularly pruned.

Public services are good, goes the received wisdom, but those who administer them must be watched carefully.

The spread of this message has created a high level of interest in the charter phenomenon from overseas, as international visitors descend on the Cabinet Office's Charter Unit to find out more about how the British do it.

As the September report on the Citizen's Charter commented: "France, the United States, Belgium and Australia have all undertaken initiatives to improve efficiency in much the same way as the charter."

But while the UK may have got there first, it does not follow that we still lead the field. The public reform agenda is moving faster in some other places," says consultant Diana Goldsworthy, who works on charter initiatives overseas.

Those close to the charter in the UK feel there is still a lot of life left in the initiative. But according to Peninah Thomson of Coopers & Lybrand, its focus has shifted.

"Initially the priority was to influence the big service providers. Current strategy, however, is concerned with enabling local organisations and local people to take up the charter principles."

Ms Thomson claims the charter process changes officials' perceptions of customer needs, an aim echoed in the name of a current US programme entitled Putting Customers First — Standards for Serving the American People.

Published one year ago, Putting Customers First has much in common with Charter Mark. "One reason government must begin treating people the way top businesses treat their customers is to restore faith in our system of government," the US report says. "The truth is, most Americans don't trust government to do the right thing."

UK government publications are not as blunt as this. But the message is much the same. "Agencies are changing ... to focus on the things customers say are important," says the US publication.

That is not too different from the British version. But it may be too much to hope for similar rapid progress in eastern and central Europe, where old-style deference to the politburo ideal persists despite keen interest in changing government attitudes.

EDWARD FENNELL

Using yew technology

To most people, yew trees are good material for topiary or decorating churchyards. To Brighton borough council they represent another opportunity for recycling, *Lucy Hodges writes.*

It might seem eccentric to recycle clippings of one-year-old yews, and the East Sussex town has certainly had fun with its Yew Bank campaign, launched last year by the boxer Chris Eubank. But behind the jokes lies a serious rationale: a drugs company is extracting a substance from the yew to help develop anti-cancer drugs, and the imaginative scheme has helped win Brighton's waste reduction and recycling service a Charter Mark.

The council launched the scheme after it was approached by an agent for pharmaceutical company Rhone-Poulenc Rorer.

"We had run Christmas tree recycling," says Susan Strong, the council's waste reduction and recycling officer, "so we thought we could run yew tree recycling on the same lines."

It turned out they could. Brighton residents were asked to put their yew clippings in sacks provided by the council for collection, and 600 kilos was collected last year.

Brighton has also been trying to persuade people to buy recycled products by giving work to a local artist who



Chris Eubank and friend clip a yew

turns empty green glass bottles into glass bricks, to be used in a stylish refurbishment of the seafront.

Other local authority winners of this year's awards are showing similar sensitivity to local suggestions and needs, and one noticeable trend is the use of state-of-the-art information technology, particularly the CD Rom. Another winner, the library service in the South London borough of Southwark, is renting out personal computers at £1 an hour. Residents can book the computers and use them in the library, where staff provide word processing programs and support. For £3 an hour, residents will soon be able to surf the Internet, which Southwark libraries marketing manager Dominic Bean describes as "a very important source of information".

Southwark has also been keen to develop new technology for children, particularly CD roms, and is establishing GCSE collections in its libraries where children may go for books and other materials. Homework centres, run by the borough's education service in libraries, will open shortly for children who need help with homework after school and on Saturdays.

One characteristic of the innovative work being done by local councils is that it need not cost much. The emphasis is on economic use of resources.

Another winner, the environmental health department of Braintree district council in Essex, has set up a mediation service to resolve noisy neighbour disputes without resorting to the law. "We spent a lot of time trying to intervene in such cases without much success," says Dennis Powers, director of environmental services.

The beauty of the scheme is that quarrelling neighbours choose their mediators from a list provided, and the council can remain above the fray.

Hospital wins at cards

When Stuart Butcher, 73, was rushed to Queen's Park Hospital in Blackburn earlier this year with a serious heart condition, his wife was distraught, *Lucy Hodges writes.* "We had given her information about visiting times and told her to call when she needed," explained Mrs Anne Asher, nurse manager for the Blackburn, Hynburn and Ribble Valley NHS trust.

During his stay, Mr Butcher, a retired Post Office engineer from Blackburn, had a pacemaker fitted.

"After the operation, he must have reflected on the information we had given his wife," said Mrs Asher.

Later he was asked how the hospital could be improved as part of a quality audit. He suggested that next-of-kin be given a card showing the hospital telephone number, ward number and the name of a contact. His suggestion was adopted by the trust and has won the best user award.

Unfortunately, Mr Butcher had to return to hospital later but his wife had the opportunity to try out his suggestion. "She found it quite useful," he says. "When patients come into hospital their relatives are often in a bit of a flap. They're not really in a fit state to absorb information. "It's much better to hand them a card that they can have a look at later on."



Colin Hardy, of Wandsworth, helps to operate the borough's emergency service

The innovation cost less than £100 for 5,000 cards — and staff are reporting excellent feedback.

The best staff suggestion has been won by the register office in the London borough of Wandsworth, which has introduced new practices to make life easier for its clients. In particular, it has brought in new systems for registering the deaths of still-born babies and babies who die shortly after birth. "These people are not only having to register a death but also a birth," said Philip Ward, the borough's head of corporate services. "It's quite a trauma."

Register office staff realised that unnecessary delays, which made the process more painful for parents, could be created unknowingly by hospital doctors, coroners and by the location of the register office. They set about reforming the service.

Today staff are given bereavement training, which enables them to handle parents more sensitively. Bereaved parents are channelled into a separate room in the register office away from other parents. They are also given the opportunity to register at the hospital or in their own homes. Leaflets have been produced explaining the registration process.

Doctors are being urged — as part of their training at St George's Hospital — to write carefully when they complete certificates giving the cause of death. Illegible or badly expressed phrases could lead to delay — and heartache.

In addition, staff have negotiated a 24-hour emergency service with the coroner's office, which enables them to clear any cases in which the cause of death might require referral to that office.

CHARTER MARK

For another three years

We're proud to have retained our Charter Mark. We've worked hard for it, and the result is a better performance against OFFER's standards than any other regional electricity company. In 1994/95 we delivered 1.27 million "guaranteed services", and failed to meet targets on just 22 occasions. We were the first to set up a dedicated Customer Services Division. We've instigated helpful schemes such as our Language Line and braille billing.

We've opened our Customer Enquiry Centre 24 hours a day, 365 days a year. And on top of all this, cut the cost of electricity to residential customers by an unprecedented 16% in real terms over the past four years. No wonder we get a lower percentage of customer complaints than any other electricity supplier. It's all proof that we're committed to being the best customer service provider in the utility sector.

Registered address: London Electricity plc, Templar House, 81-87 High Holborn, London WC1V 6NU. Registered No. 2366852

YOU'RE ON WITH LONDON LONDON ELECTRICITY

Reward Offered

A large reward is offered to those Bodies who can attain high standards of excellence in public service from the Citizen's Charter Unit of the Cabinet Office.
Only around 13% of candidates ever realise this standard.
Haringey Leisure Services is one of them.
Congratulations are in order, and may Rainbow Press Ltd be amongst the first to offer them.

HARINGEY LEISURE

rainbow press ltd

Teignbridge DISTRICT COUNCIL
CONGRATULATES THEIR BUILDING CONTROL DEPARTMENT ON WINNING A CHARTER MARK.
BUILDING CONTROL

DOWN LISBURN TRUST

DOWN LISBURN TRUST
SPEECH AND LANGUAGE THERAPY DEPARTMENT
CHARTER MARK WINNERS 1995

'GIVING PATIENTS THEIR SAY'

Contact Heather Crawford/Jane McConn, Lisburn Health Centre, (01846) 665181 Ext 4805

SIX OF THE BEST FROM IPSWICH BOROUGH COUNCIL

Animal Welfare
Car Parks
Housing Advisory Services
Ipswich Borough Benefits
Ipswich Borough Homes
Sports Division

IPSWICH BOROUGH COUNCIL

... quality services delivered with care

The Civic Centre Civic Drive Ipswich IP1 2EE
Telephone 01473 2x2x2x

DOUBLE AWARD FOR EMPLOYMENT SERVICE

CHARTER MARK HEREFORD & WORCESTER
CHARTER MARK WEST STAFFORDSHIRE

EMPLOYMENT SERVICE
Serving People through Jobcentres

هكذا من الاصل

RESULTS AND STATISTICS

TODAY

Interims: Alba, Acal, Allen, Associated Nursing, Hadleigh Industries Group, Hazlewood Foods, Plysu, Scottish & Newcastle, TGI. **Finals:** Bearing Power International, Butte Mining, Faber Prest, Get Group, H Young. **Economic statistics:** UK official reserves (November), M0 figures (November — provisional), Share Ownership 95 — a report on the share register survey to end-1994.

TOMORROW

Interims: Allied Colloids, Anglian, Dailywin, Leigh Interests, Midlands Electricity, Morris Ashby, Northern Ireland Electricity, Orbis, Racal Electronics, Real Time Control, Siebe, TBI, Triplex Lloyd, Wessex Water, Zambia Consolidated Copper. **Finals:** Archimedes Investment Trust, Edinburgh New Tiger Trust, Eldridge Pope & Co, Hozelock Group, Leeds Group, Sage Group, Shaftesbury. **Economic statistics:** Advance energy statistics (November), figures for housing starts and completions (October).

WEDNESDAY

Interims: Border TV, BTP, Caffyns, Chamberlain Phipps, Clayhithe, Drummond Group, Expro Intnl Group, Hill Hire, Jos Hldngs (Q1), London Cremation Co, Penna, R Wiseman Dairies, Swalec, Sterling Publishing, Wellman, WT Foods. **Finals:** Avon Rubber, Bass, Berisford, Carlton Communications, Celltech Group, Denby Group, Fleming Indian Investment Trust, NFC. **Economic statistics:** Cyclical indicators of the UK economy (Oct 2 estimate), overseas travel and tourism (Sept) index of production (Oct), gilt auction (£3bn 7½ per cent Treasury 2006).

THURSDAY

Interims: Abbeycrest, Airsprung Furniture, Assoc British Eng, D C Cook, Fine Art Dev, GEC, Gibbon Group, Great Universal Stores, Greycoat, High Inc Trust, Ideal Hardware, Hartstone Group, Norbain, Rainford Group, Samuel Heath, St James Beach Hotels. **Finals:** Alvis, Compass Group, Dewhurst, Estates & Agency, Eve Group, Greenalls Group, GWR, Lovell (Hldngs), United Drug. **Economic statistics:** CBI survey of distributive trades (November).

FRIDAY

Interims: Courts, Crown Eyeglass, Fuller Smith & Turner, John Swan, Scudder Latin America Investment Trust, Syltone, John Tams. **Finals:** Ransomes, Unidare. **Economic statistics:** Figures for construction output (Q3).

COMPANIES  PHILIP PANGALOS

Courage write-off likely at S&N



Scottish & Newcastle's Brian Stewart is said to have sporting theme pubs as a possible goal

SCOTTISH & NEWCASTLE: The hot summer and a good contribution from the Center Parcs leisure operation should allow the brewing-to-pubs and holiday group to unveil a healthy advance in first-half operating profits when it reports today.

However, analysts are braced for substantial write-offs from S&N's purchase this year of Courage from Foster's Brewing Group, the Australian brewer. Estimates range between £70 million and £110 million for the size of the charge to be taken on the interim figures. This will cover the cost of closing one or more of the Courage breweries.

The company, of which Brian Stewart is managing director, should benefit from better beer sales during the fine summer weather and a good performance by Chef & Brewer. The Center Parcs holiday division should also do well, although some of its activities, such as tennis and squash, may have felt the heat. S&N became Britain's biggest brewer, with a 25 per cent share of the UK brewing market, after the £425 million Courage deal.

Like other brewers, S&N is feeling some adverse effects as cross-Channel booze cruises take a toll on take-home margins. However, there could be benefits for S&N from a possible link with Newcastle United, which is considering launching a chain of themed sporting pubs under the 1892 label, the year the football club was founded.

SBC Warburg has pencilled in pre-exceptional interim pre-tax profits of £157 million (£145.6 million), with an interim dividend of 6.5p (6.09p) predicted. Market forecasts range from £157 million to £170 million, with dividend expectations from 6.5p to 6.7p. Courage is expected to make a first-time partial contribution of about £7 million to operating profits.

SIEBE: The engineering group is tomorrow expected to unveil a strong advance in first-half profits driven by Foxboro, the controls operation, which is going from strength to strength in the United States. Pete Deighton at Merrill Lynch is looking for interim pre-tax profits to climb to £142 million (£119.5 million), with the dividend predicted to rise to 4.43p (4.03p). Market forecasts range from £141 million to £147 million. Mr Deighton said the profits advance will be driven by the control systems division, with the Foxboro operation again expected to be the star performer.

BASS: A strong performance from hotels and pubs should offset poorer trading conditions gripping Bass's bingo and Coral betting operations. The Holiday Inns hotels business is thought to be doing well, and the company will benefit from the fine summer weather. However, the impact of the National Lottery will have been felt on the bingo and bookmaking operations.

John Spicer at SBC Warburg expects final pre-tax profits, due on Wednesday, to advance to £590 million (£555 million) before exceptionals. Mr Spicer predicts a total dividend of 22.7p (21.1p). Market forecasts range from £580 million to £600 million.

CARLTON COMMUNICATIONS: Good advertising growth and an impressive performance from its video arm should help Michael Green's acquisitive media group to lift full-year pre-tax profits, due on Wednesday, to £248 million (£190 million), according to UBS. A 23.5p (20.7p) dividend is predicted. Market forecasts are £233-£255 million.

GEC: The electronic to defence conglomerate is expected to lift first-half pre-tax profits, due on Thursday, to £405 million (£378 million), according to Merrill Lynch. An interim dividend of 3.1p (2.95p) is predicted. Forecasts range from £395 million to £405 million. News is awaited on reports last week that Yarrow Shipbuilders, GEC's Scottish warship yard, had won an order for three offshore patrol vessels for Brunei thought to be worth about £600 million.

NORTHERN IRELAND ELECTRICITY: One of the few privatised electricity companies not to have received a takeover offer is likely to draw criticism from Labour about utilities making too much money when it unveils an expected increase in profits tomorrow. Interim pre-tax profits are expected to climb to £54 million (£44.3 million), according to Panmure Gordon. Market forecasts range from £43 million to £54 million.

GREAT UNIVERSAL STORES: Thursday's half-year earnings at the home shopping to financial services group are likely to be flat at £230 million, according to UBS, because of a weaker performance from its core mail order division. Sales at the division are thought to have risen by a modest 1-2 per cent. Elsewhere, Burberry is expected to have performed well, although lending from its consumer finance division will be down against last year. UBS thinks GUS may be considering a another special dividend payout.

WESSEX WATER: Credit Lyonnais Laing expects tomorrow's first half pre-tax profits from Wessex to climb to £63 million (£58 million), with an interim dividend of 5p predicted. Market forecasts range from £61 million to £65 million. Attention will focus on current trading and prospects, as well as the possibility of a share buy-back, with the company having gained shareholder approval to buy back 10 per cent of its ordinary shares.

ECONOMIC OUTLOOK

Output under scrutiny

Attention this week focuses on October's industrial production figures, due for release on Wednesday, and on the Confederation of British Industry's November distributive trades survey, published the following day.

Economists said they will be looking closely at the data in the wake of last week's Budget and particularly the prediction by Kenneth Clarke, the Chancellor, of strong growth in consumer spending. City expectations are for industrial production to have dipped, or at best risen a small amount, in October as manufacturers have sought to correct a stock overhang. Forecasts were between 0.4 per cent down and 0.1 per cent up; those for key manufacturing output were between 0.5 per cent down and 0.3 per cent up.

Thursday's CBI survey will be watched for any signs of a pick-up in retail sales, particularly after last Friday's better than expected October consumer credit figures showing net lending of £872 million against about £600 million expected. Any data that show further signs of economic weakness will fuel expectations of lower short-term interest rates. Most analysts now look to the regular monetary meeting on December 13 between Mr Clarke and Eddie George, the Governor of the Bank of England, for news of a cut.

In America, the key economic focus will be on the November employment report. Adam Chester, international bond strategist with Yamaichi International, said he expects the retail and service sectors to have provided about 200,000 more jobs in the Thanksgiving period and run-up to Christmas. Signs of recovery in manufacturing employment are less likely, he said.

The quarterly Tankan key survey of Japanese business confidence, due on Friday, is expected to show another marginal drop in the main reading on business conditions, disappointing hopes of a recovery around the corner.

SARAH CUNNINGHAM

SUNDAY TIPS

The Sunday Times: **Buy** Coal Investments, Thorn EMI, Allen Group, Adscene. *The Sunday Telegraph*: **Buy** Century Inns; **Avoid** Dalgety; **Sell** Gibbon Group. *The Observer*: **Buy** CRH; **Hold** Tate & Lyle; **Avoid** Norcros. *The Mail on Sunday*: **Buy** Caledonian Media Communications, Close Brothers, Cash Converters International. *Independent on Sunday*: **Buy** Severn Trent, Adscene; **Sell** Highland.

New entrants push AIM capitalisation to £2bn

NEW companies joining the Alternative Investment Market helped push the total market capitalisation of the new market for smaller and growing companies through the £2 billion mark for the first time. Capitalisation hit £2.06 billion, while the total cash raised since AIM started on June 19 stands at £52.7 million (Philip Pangalos writes).

David Abrahams, a dealer at Winterflood Securities, said there was considerable interest and a healthy debut for Trocadero, the leisure complex spun off by Burford Holdings. Trocadero started the week at 37p and ended at 44p, while Jasmin, the electronic systems group, started dealings on Thursday at 88p and ended the week at 103p.

PolyMASC Pharmaceuticals, a biopharmaceutical company, is expected today to announce an intention to float on AIM and raise £5 million.

ALTERNATIVE INVESTMENT MARKET

Mkt cap (million)	Company	Price (pence)	Wkly +/−	Yld %	P/E
15.30	AMCO Corp	107	+ 3	5.3	11.8
0.89	Abacus Recruit	17	...	...	...
18.10	A de Gruchy	123	...	5.7	10.2
6.12	African Gold	7¼	+ ¼	..	...
	Albemarale & Bd	14	...	...	..
11.70	Alpha Omikron	21	+ 1	..	...
40.20	Ann St Brewery	420	...	5.3	11.4
5.30	Ann St Cv Pf	895	− 10	8.9	..
84.30	Antonov	120	+ 37	..	...
11.70	Ask Central	73	..	..	...
	Athelney Trust	55	..	..	..
4.37	Baris Hldgs	17	..	..	...
4.12	Belcanto	46	..	..	...
	Bowness Leis	145	..	..	...
	Bown Leis Cv Pf	70	..	..	..
5.55	Brancote Hldgs	56	+ 6	..	...
27.40	Brockbank	235	..	3.4	23.5
	CCI Hldgs	116	+ 1	..	...
	CCI Founder Shs	110	..	..	...
3.21	Cate Inns	115	...	2.2	9.5
8.52	Caledonian Tst	75	..	..	9.1
12.10	Card Clear	61	+ 3	..	...
3.85	Cassidy Bros	70	..	5.4	10.0
1.79	Cavendish W F	41	..	..	20.8
	Celtic	6750	..	..	...
	Celtic Pf Shs	6750	..	..	...
15.40	Cl Comms(TV)	114	..	2.7	14.5
5.58	Chartwell Intl	62	− 2	..	..
13.10	ClubPartners	31	..	..	..
7.99	Consler Tst	40	+ 2	2.5	17.1
10.90	Country Gdns	61	...	2.5	12.6
2.49	Cntry Gdns Pf	68	..	9.8	...
40.90	Creos Intl	114	− 6	..	...
10.80	DBS Management	160	+ 3½	4.7	6.5
	Dalkeith Inns	35	+ 1	..	...
3.68	David Glass	68	+ 2	5.3	9.7
39.30	Dawson Hldgs	860	+ 5	4.2	11.9
3.21	Dean Corp	11	..	..	64.3
97.00	Electrophoretics Intl	150	+ 8	...	..
5.62	Euro Sales Fn	125	..	...	..
	Fairlake	235	..	...	..
1.77	Finl Publs	75	..	..	...
26.70	Firecrest	160	− 15	..	69.6
5.53	Floral St	238	..	..	12.9
12.00	Formscan	128	− 10	2.0	..
4.50	Furlong Homes	90	− 1	3.3	4.8
23.10	Gander Hldgs	8	− ½	...	68.3
5.70	Greenhills	19	..	..	...
34.60	Gution	155	..	3.2	14.0
5.71	Hansom	56	− 2	..	..
54.50	Hiscox Ded Ins	120	...	0.3	...
11.20	Indpt Radio	112	..	...	...
13.60	Inner Workings	81	..	...	...
21.10	Intl Greetings	503	..	...	...
4.20	Jasmin	103	...	..	..
18.70	Jennings Bros	288	...	2.5	24.7
38.20	KS Biomedix	101	..	..	..
25.30	Lancashire Enterprises	140	+ 2	4.4	11.9
	Lawrence	205	..	..	...
53.70	Lawrie Group	2750	..	3.2	14.0
46.40	Le Riches Strs	280	.	7.0	27.9
	Lifehome As Ten	85	...	..	..
21.80	Lon Fiduciary	2¼	+ ¼	...	.
2.00	London Town	80	..	...	
12.00	Lorien Grp	210	− 10	..	...
5.26	Meltek	83	.	.	37.1
263.40	Memory Corp	445	+ 55	.	.
6.33	Metrodome Films	22	..	..	
12.00	Moorepay	158	+ 2	3.1	26.0
19.30	Multimedia	67	+ 3	..	.
22.50	NWF Grp	300	..	2.7	14.5
	Nash (Wm)	180	+ 15	5.2	..
8.35	Neill Clerk	330	.	2.3	16.0
5.63	Neilson Cobbold	205	.	2.3	5.0
	Norcsly It	65	+ 2	.	.
	Northomes	66	+ 1	.	...
	Nthmb Res Prps	65	..	..	.
16.20	Nursing Home	105	− 1	0.6	..
9.68	Old English Pub	88	..	2.8	..
5.30	Omnicare	86	+ 1	2.2	14.3
12.50	Omnimedia	70	− 1	.	...
13.30	Pacific Media	1½	+ ¼	.	..
	Pacific Med Pf	53	..	...	..
6.17	Pan Andean Res	15	+ 2		..
4.66	Park Ests(Liv)	195	.	.	..
3.62	Preston Nth E	400		.	..
	Revelation Piccadilly	100	..	.	.
11.20	Ricemari Insce	17	− 1	.	...
13.40	SCS Satellite	130	+ 2	..	..
4.45	Scotswood Inds	20	+ 2	6.2	60.8
	Scott Pride	41	...	..	..
13.00	Scrutions	270	.	6.0	11.0
	Silkbarn	2½	.	.	.
124.50	Southern News	528	+ 3	3.7	14.7
	Southern Vectis	56	..	...	...
30.80	Stanford Rook	176	− 12	.	.
12.60	Surrey Pr Inns	125	+ 10	1.8	14.7
51.60	TRACKER Netwk	975	− 30	. .	..
4.85	Tele Cred Eur	48	..		...
	Tele Cred Wrts	40	+ 2	...	.
12.80	Toad	103	+ 12	.	.
	Trinity Care	180	+ 1½	1.0	
	Trinity Care Pf	165	..	..	
185.80	Trocadero	44	..	...	.
	Univent	40	.	..	
8.24	Utd Auctions	463	.	1.1	..
	VDC	625	.	..	...
35.70	Versailles Grp	13½	...	..	22.0
	Voss	243	..	..	..
	Wedderburn Secs	12	+ 2	...	..
	Wedd Secs Wrnts	5	+ 1	...	..
1.72	Westmount Engy	21	− 4	...	..
8.42	W'chester M Md	76	− 2	..	...
	Wynnstay Props	145	..	..	...
	Zergo	170	+ 10	..	..

WORD-WATCHING

Answers from page 34

GYROVAGUE
(b) Gyrovagues were monks in the Dark Ages who were accustomed to wander from place to place, converting and begging. From the Latin *gyrus* a ring + *vagāri* to wander.

COMPOTATION
(c) A drinking party, from the Latin *cum* in company with, *potor*, *potari*, *potato* to drink.

UNNUN
(a) To defrock (metaphorically speaking) a nun for bad behaviour. A delightful and rhythmic word in itself, and apart from that a formidable Scrabble weapon, for those useless and repetitive selections of letters.

BIGGIN
(c) A silver coffee pot with a separate container which holds the coffee as it is heated.

SOLUTION TO WINNING CHESS MOVE

1 ... Re3+! 2 fxe3 (2 g3 Rxg3+ doesn't help) 2 ... Qg3 mate

benefits agency

HITTING THE MARK IN CUSTOMER SERVICE

The Benefits Agency would like to congratulate its staff on their success in this year's Charter Mark Scheme.

The Agency won 13 Charter Marks which brings the total we hold to 25. That is more than any other single organisation.

We are committed to improving the standard of service we offer to our customers. Our Charter Mark success shows we are on the right path.

Each year the Agency pays more than £80 billion in social security benefits and pensions to more than 20 million customers.

Our Charter Mark winners are:
Brunel District
East Lowlands District
Family Credit Unit
Fife District
Highlands and Islands District
Manchester South District
Newcastle District
North Essex District
Pensions and Overseas Benefits Directorate
Wigan and Leigh District
Wirral District
Wolverhampton District
Newcastle Disability Benefits Centre

INFORMATION

For general advice on social security benefits and National Insurance contributions ring:

Freeline Social Security - 0800 666 555

This service is also available in:

Chinese	0800 252 451
Punjabi	0800 521 360
Urdu	0800 289 188
Welsh	0800 289 011

Benefit Enquiry Line – 0800 88 22 00

For benefit advice and information for people with disabilities and their carers

Forms Completion Line – 0800 44 11 44

For help with filling in claim forms

Textphone – 0800 23 33 55

Advice and information for deaf people

London City Airport
Paris Charles de Gaulle
return
from only £250?

Sacrebleu!

For an AirJetCard of 5 journeys bought before the 31/12/95.
Contact your travel agent or your AirJetClub in London 0171 476 6000.

AIR JET Groupe Jet Services

CHANGING AIR TRAVEL.

CHANGE ON WEEK

THE POUND

US dollar
1.5310 (-0.0295)
German mark
2.2123 (+0.0026)
Exchange index
82.6 (-0.4)
Bank of England official close (4pm)

STOCK MARKET

FT 30 share
2670.6 (+15.8)
FT-SE 100
3680.4 (+56.4)
New York Dow Jones
5087.13 (+38.29)
Tokyo Nikkei Avge
18883.10 (+667.87)

TOURIST RATES

	Bank Buys	Bank Sells
Australia $	2.16	2.00
Austria Sch	16.62	15.12
Belgium Fr	48.61	44.31
Canada $	2.196	2.036
Cyprus Cypf	0.741	0.686
Denmark Kr	9.20	8.40
Finland Mkk	7.17	6.52
France Fr	8.08	7.43
Germany Dm	2.37	2.16
Greece Dr	386.00	361.00
Hong Kong $	12.50	11.50
Ireland Pt	1.02	0.94
Israel Shk	5.1200	4.4700
Italy Lira	2556.00	2401.00
Japan Yen	170.80	154.60
Malta	0.592	0.537
Netherlds Gld	2.638	2.408
New Zealand $	2.50	2.28
Norway Kr	10.36	9.56
Portugal Esc	243.50	225.00
S Africa Rd	ref.	5.37
Spain Pta	196.00	183.00
Sweden Kr	10.69	9.89
Switzerland Fr	1.94	1.75
Turkey Lira	refer	79696.0
USA $	1.630	1.500

Rates for small denomination bank notes only as supplied by Barclays Bank plc. Different rates apply to travellers' cheques. Rates as at close of trading on Friday

Renewing your home contents insurance?

If you're looking for quality home contents cover from a company you know and trust, call Legal & General.

We offer up to £35,000 new-for-old cover with added discounts for the over 40s or for improved home security. And if you arrange both your home contents and buildings insurance with us, we'll give you 20% off your buildings policy. So find out about better home contents cover at a better price.



Coins not included

Call now for your free no-obligation quotation, we'll even give you a free coinholder keyring just to thank you for calling.

Call the name you can trust.

0800 282 404

Please quote reference [illegible]
Office hours. Monday-Friday 8am-8pm.
Saturday 9am-1pm

Legal & General Insurance FREEPOST Quay House, Waterfront East, Brierley Hill, West Midlands DY5 1BR

Home Contents cover is only available in England, Scotland and Wales and is subject to acceptance by underwriters

Legal & General

Capitalisation, week's change

TRADING PERIOD: Settlement takes place five business days after the day of trade. Changes are calculated on the previous day's close, but adjustments are made when a stock is ex-dividend. Changes, yields and price/earnings ratios are based on middle prices.

BANKS

Mkt cap (million)	Company	Price (p)	Wkly +/-	Yld %	P/E
8,675.20	ABN AMRO	2925	+ 58½	4.4	10.8
8,559.00	Abbey Nat	650	+ 42	3.7	13.0
2,393.00	Allied Irish	339	- 3	4.8	10.4
1,057.80	Ass. New Z	362	+ 13	5.5	.
14,513.70	Bank. America†	4125	+175	.	.
3,357.30	Bank. Scotland†	653	+ 13	2.7	12.6
12,905.50	Barclays	790	- 12	3.8	10.8
2,263.20	BK of Ireland	476	+ 3	3.8	9.5
144.40	Chas. Allen	443	- 16	8.6	6.6
17,958.20	Citicorp	4585*x	+225	.	.
364.30	Close Bros	320	+ 4	3.4	14.4
5,434.20	Commercial†	2151½	+284½	3.6	.
38,524.20	Nat. Iois. Ken.†	1236½	+ 31½	3.4	.
14,724.60	Deutsche Bk	3086½	+ 43½	2.4	.
132.70	Espirito Santo	1021½	+ 56½	5.8	8.2
39,804.60	Fst Bos Y	1373¾	+100	0.4	.
221.10	Goomel Hsh†	453	- 1	5.2	14.6
355.40	Hambros†	2017	+ ½	4.7	.
8,567.00	HSBC	995	+ 42½	3.5	12.9
17,324.00	HSBC HK	976	+ 42½	3.6	12.7
277.00	Hsh Ken.	365	+ 16	3.3	8.4
24.50	Joseph (L)	463	- 51	5.1	25.6
35.20	King Shaxson	137	+ 20	8.2	10.6
11,824.30	Lloyds	886	+ 29	3.6	13.5
6,724.00	Mid Kent Pl	569	+ 29	7.0	.
11,651.20	Nat. Mid	955	- 12	4.1	10.3
125.00	Ottoman Bank	2500	. .	.	5.4
21.90	Rea Brothers	45	. .	2.5	18.0
4,637.30	Rgnl Bk Scot	5214	+ 34	3.4	15.7
2,012.80	Robinsons	1335	+ 27	1.3	19.0
466.40	Schroders NV	1135	+ 32	1.6	16.2
216.40	Singer & Fried	110	- 2	4.2	11.4
5,959.50	Standd Chart	614	+ 22	2.8	15.4
6,296.50	TSB	411	+ 7	3.6	14.4
29.80	Union	112	+ 1	3.3	.
7,076.00	Wells Fargo	5138	+143¾	2.2	.
4,870.10	Westpac	357	+ 5½	5.1	.
23.00	Whitbrd	298	- 10	3.3	16.3

BREWERIES

Mkt cap (million)	Company	Price (p)	Wkly +/-	Yld %	P/E
65.40	Accm Hldgs	230	+ 16	. .	0.5
6,003.60	Bass	883	- 6	4.0	16.5
536.70	Bockington	443	+ 4	2.8	22.8
37.20	Burtonwd Brwf	179	- 1½	3.8	17.3
36.60	Eldridge P "A"	174	+ 1	3.1	21.3
60.40	Fstr Sns 'A'	409	. .	2.6	15.4
1,582.00	Greenalls Grp	535	+ 9	3.2	16.5
266.70	Greene King	629	+ 1	2.8	16.8
57.80	Hardy Hanse	268	- 1	4.2	13.5
3.59	Hawthrne	155	. .	4.5	10.9
96.50	Holt J	3113	. .	2.2	16.7
268.00	Marstfield†	352	- 1¼	2.1	18.2
291.70	Mitchn Thsp	314	+ 6	2.8	15.6
145.50	Morlans	535	+ 16	2.8	.
8.55	Paramount†	7¾	+ ½	3.8	11.6
26.60	Regent Inns	605	+ 8	1.4	23.8
5,277.10	SA Brewery†	20300	+ 75	2.0	16.3
3,855.80	Scot & Newc	629	- 3	3.6	16.9
	Scot & Newc PIP	390	. .	.	.
388.60	Vaux Group	263	- 3	4.7	14.8
592.50	Wetherspoon JDT	637	- 2	1.6	25.9
1,263.10	Whitbread†	1577	+ 13	2.4	16.7
368.10	Wolverhmpn D	551	+ 31	3.5	.
121.70	Yates Bros	309	+ 4	1.3	27.3
12.90	Young "A't	436	- 1¼	4.3	17.2

BUILDING & CONSTRUCT

Mkt cap (million)	Company	Price (p)	Wkly +/-	Yld %	P/E
54.20	Abbey	140	+ 5	4.7	9.1
62.30	Allen	193	- 2	3.6	14.4
200.00	Amec†	793	- 2	3.8	20.9
39.00	Andrews Sykes	273	+ 3	.	.
153.70	Ashtead	166	+ 9	1.8	16.6
17.00	Avocaide	38	. .	10.6	6.2
2.62	Bailey (Ben) Con	25	. .	5.2	6.1
6.25	Bairstow	35	. .	.	.
416.30	Barratt Devs	286	+ 5	4.1	14.1
471.70	Beazer Homes	158	+ 3	4.4	12.1
251.40	Bellway	256	+ 2	3.9	.
7.57	Bellway†	17	. .	1.5	8.1
371.20	Bellway Grp	479	+ 1	3.8	14.9
26.60	Bld Bros	177	- 1	3.9	8.2
53.50	Bovd (Henry)	198	. .	4.5	9.3
19.60	Brandon Hire	90	- 1	3.2	15.9
5.70	Britannia Grp	26	+ 2	3.8	49.0
4.48	Bdg & Eng	40	. .	2.50	5.5
288.00	Bryant	103	. .	6.1	9.4
47.80	CALA	111	. .	3.6	10.7
3.02	Campbll & Arn	21	+ 3	. .	16.7
6.00	Carlis T	9	. .	10.4	17.6
38.30	Costain	74	. .	. .	.
57.30	Countrystde	75	- 1	7.0	10.7
64.30	Crest Nicholson	65	- 1	3.8	9.1
14.40	Dussins	81	+ 1	5.9	7.1
170.10	Ew. Group	199	+ 19	7.1	10.5
16.90	Centaurd	19	. .	9.5	38.8
74.50	Gleeson (AA)†	738	- ½	2.5	.
4.70	Green (Eric)†	61	. .	10.5	26.6
71.50	Hawtock Burnt	272	- 1	1.5	22.6
379.20	Heiton Hldgs	417	. .	1.4	23.2
61.60	Higgs & Hill	93	+ 1	3.4	7.9
3.96	Howard Hidgs	15	. .	6.7	17.5
9.63	Jarvis	23½	. .	. .	.
74.50	Keller	138	. .	3.6	12.9
117.00	Laing (J)	255	+ 8	3.1	11.7
41.40	Laing 6.4% Cr Pf	103	+ 5	7.8	.
10.10	Lovell (TJ)	35½	+ 5½	4.9	2.6
46.50	Maunders (J)	166	. .	3.6	9.9
92.60	McAlpine (A)	134	- 2	6.6	15.3
67.00	McKay (W) & S	68	- 3	5.8	.
25.10	Morgan Sindall	79	+ 4	1.4	.
80.80	Morrison Cons	121	. .	3.1	11.8
104.80	Mowlem (J)	60	- 2	4.2	29.9
211.60	Persimmon	181	+ 1	6.6	12.5
20.80	Pochins	100	. .	2.0	12.2
91.50	Prowting†	112	- 2	4.2	14.9
32.00	Rains Ind	17	- 1	3.7	.
5.05	Secure Retire	49	+ 1	2.6	9.3
270.10	Redrow	126	- 1	3.1	11.7
38.60	Sheriff Hidgs	345	- 1	2.3	12.6
4.65	Sisnco	77	. .	6.5	11.4
114.00	Speyhawk	353	+ 8	4.0	12.4
43.50	Tay Homes	149	- 4	5.9	10.2
443.60	Taylor Woodrw	115	- 1	2.4	21.9
149.70	Tilbury Dougls	443	- 2	8.3	15.1
9.31	Torex Rtle	32	. .	5.1	13.7
8.32	Transformnd	101	- 2	. .	.
6.23	Try Group	9	- ½	6.9	12.6
35.10	Vibroplant	76	- 6	6.6	5.6
65.30	Wainhomes	105	- 3	5.4	9.6
24.30	Ward Hidgs	46	. .	4.1	10.3
121.90	Wates Group†	193	+ 10	3.1	17.8
14.80	Wiggins	3	. .	. .	20.8
300.50	Wilson (C)	152	- 1	3.7	11.3
324.10	Wilson Bowdn	347	+ 1	3.6	12.7
459.40	Wimpey G	139	+ 2	5.3	18.9

BUSINESS SERVICES

Mkt cap (million)	Company	Price (p)	Wkly +/-	Yld %	P/E
6.89	Anglo Utd	0¾	- .	. .	.
23.40	App Hsle	85	- 7	. .	.
3.44	Bailey (CH)	6¼	+ ¼	. .	.
9.21	Black Arrowt	37	- 3	10.5	6.5
3.61	Bloomsbrck	38	. .	. .	38.4
2.15	Card Sp	3¾	. .	. .	.
2.48	Chemrz	6¼	- ¼	2.0	19.5
18.00	Cossill	156	. .	7.1	7.3
76.70	Dialoc	168	+ 16	. .	14.7
5.15	Hastmy	32	+ 1	. .	29.1
98.00	Hoskbck	418	+ 1	2.3	18.8
82.60	Leigh	135	- 2	7.8	13.0
24.50	Nobo Gp	139	- 3	5.6	9.2
99.30	Photo-Mat	162	. .	3.9	14.2
16.60	Print & Cent	59	+ ½	5.8	6.3
1.85	Redime	1¼	- ¼	. .	.
182.40	Sketts & McEwan	98	+ 6	4.3	20.5
41.00	Stacker (Hnn)	188	- 4	5.1	.
1,237.70	Waste Mgt Int	330	+ 10	. .	12.5
42.20	Wasse Hsyg	127	+ 6	1.2	27.5

BUILDING MATERIALS

Mkt cap (million)	Company	Price (p)	Wkly +/-	Yld %	P/E
9.43	Albrighton	13	- ½	1.8	.
169.70	Alumasc	420	+ 1	2.2	18.1
1,683.00	BPB Ind	318	+ 8	3.7	14.6
45.10	Baggeridge Brk	113	+ 9	3.5	10.6
146.90	Bardsmt	39½	- ½	9.3	13.0
13.70	Blackfrs	55	. .	. .	0.9
2,411.60	Blue Circle	329	+ 7	4.5	15.0
22.30	Brockn PLC	78	. .	. .	77.1
18.90	Bs Engingrp	108	. .	6.5	10.8
1,517.30	CRH	459	+ 6	2.3	17.2
2.38	Calednead Roy	36	. .	3.3	.
79.00	Cape	146	. .	9.4	11.3
1,163.30	Caradon	194	- 2	6.1	10.0
191.70	Caradon pf	106½	+ 1½	8.5	.
1.63	Chilcfton Gp	19	. .	13.2	.
3.05	Dycrm (J&J)	185	. .	2.7	15.3
11.40	Dycrm 'A	63	. .	8.0	6.9
31.70	Eclipse Blnds	95	. .	. .	.
51.60	Epwin	230	+ 5	4.7	12.8
12.80	Fibre	100	+ 2	. .	.
1.58	Gibbs & Dandy	68	. .	4.3	.
276.60	Graham Grp	198	+ 5	3.4	17.3
118.60	Halstead (Jas)	388	. .	2.7	17.1
1,783.30	Hepworth†	312	+ 9	5.9	14.4
3.91	Hibernian	41	- 2	7.8	8.5
232.10	Heywd Wms	229	- 1	7.5	11.8
186.50	Holdcft	67	- 1	3.3	11.0
36.80	Johnsdsn†	335	. .	3.9	7.8
24.50	Lilleshall	86	. .	7.0	10.2
385.70	Marley	115	+ 3	5.1	10.1
179.80	Marshalls	145	- 4	4.4	10.3
487.90	Meyer Int	386	+ 4	3.8	14.4
161.00	Newman Tks	156	- 10	6.8	11.3
134.50	Norcros	77	- 1	. .	16.2
9.53	Pbccrte Timber	17	. .	. .	.
1,924.20	Pilkington†	192	+ 3	3.0	15.2
256.70	Polypipe	185	- 4	2.9	15.4
2,600.90	RMC Gp†	1653	+ 24	2.7	14.3
5.00	Ransm	5	. .	. .	.
1,972.20	Redland†	380	+ 10	5.5	11.6
17.50	Redpt	98	- 4	5.5	10.3
69.90	Relwood	145	- 1	5.3	11.7
682.40	Rugby Group	187	- 7	4.2	13.8
25.40	Ransmd (S)	109	. .	4.6	10.2
174.30	SIG	216	. .	3.6	12.0
3.26	SMP	13	. .	1.9	.
33.10	Sharpe & Fisher	157	. .	4.4	12.5
99.70	Sprng Ram	39	- 1	2.6	13.0
877.20	Tarmac	257	+ 3½	7.2	14.4
12.90	Titon	117	. .	4.5	9.1
352.90	Travis Perkins	342	- 1	3.3	14.3
3.27	Tudor	30	. .	3.1	17.8
1.02	Warehouse	41	. .	. .	.
454.00	Wilcnsn	121	- 2	2.0	22.5
2,478.90	Wolseley	449	+ 5	2.8	14.9

CHEMICALS

Mkt cap (million)	Company	Price (p)	Wkly +/-	Yld %	P/E
492.20	Allright & Wil	157	+ 1	4.8	16.6
678.00	Allied Colloids	139	- 2	2.5	18.1
32.60	Avdne Indl	2625	. .	3.4	13.8
30.70	Amberley Gp	70	. .	2.3	20.1
8,442.50	BASF DM	2144½	+287½	3.1	.
4,268.50	BOCH	887	+ 16	3.8	17.1
416.00	BTP	284	+ 12	. .	14.8
11,748.90	Bayer DM50	2169½	+331½	3.5	.
103.60	Biagden	150	- ½	. .	.
50.70	Brent Chems	75	. .	6.3	20.5
447.80	Br Vita	294	+ 4	4.8	12.7
66.20	Canning (W)	233	. .	4.2	15.0
1,607.60	Courtaulds	387	+ 3	4.9	17.9
439.90	Crodnt	216	- 20	3.6	13.8
31.00	Crosfld	214	- 1	3.4	13.9
251.40	Elks & Everard	265	. .	4.1	14.9
34.10	Exro Dslour	88	- 3	2.7	21.3
21.60	Gibbon	214	. .	3.6	17.6
156.40	Hickson	90	. .	5.8	8.6
10,097.10	Hoechst	2170½	+732½	3.0	.
361.10	Holliday Chem	173	- 6	3.6	12.3
5,511.00	ICI	765	+ 24	4.7	14.6
385.00	Imsec	331	+ 9	1.8	23.1
379.20	Kalon	107	+ 6	5.4	12.2
1,518.10	Laporte	787	+ 15	3.7	16.2
24.10	MTM	65	. .	3.1	11.7
115.00	Manders	269	+ 1	4.8	13.0
9.16	Metrotect	38	- 7	9.0	14.2
21,239.50	Monsnto	3665½	- 6½	9.1	17.8
91.00	Perrier	209	+ 24	4.7	22.1
919.70	Scapa†	218	- 4½	3.8	15.5
15.30	Scientific Spnlss	27	. .	1.9	33.5
8,542.00	Tatoh Chem	9764	+ 82½	0.9	12.9
58.00	Wedgwood Hldg	250	. .	3.4	19.1
74.50	Wilkinsn H	993	- 5	2.8	18.9
125.50	Yorks Chem	274	. .	3.9	13.4
311.60	Yule Catto	310	. .	3.8	16.4

DISTRIBUTORS

Mkt cap (million)	Company	Price (p)	Wkly +/-	Yld %	P/E
31.00	ABI Ldnt	94	- 2	5.8	9.7
21.30	Adsh & Harvyt	465	- 6½	4.9	6.5
5.44	Alexndrs	13½	- ½	6.5	22.2
60.50	Applevard	91	. .	6.7	9.6
0.19	Ass. Br. Ecs	3½	. .	3.1	28.5
148.80	BSS Group	565	. .	4.3	16.3
53.50	Bndl	36	+ ½	. .	.
5.84	Bowtrp Power	16½	. .	7.6	8.1
1.26	Bygrd 'A	28	. .	. .	9.2
197.50	Bremner	453	- 4	3.9	16.7
4.67	Bridgend Gpt	17	. .	1.5	.
19.30	Bst Fittings	81	- 2	4.9	12.3
9.35	Caffyns	253	. .	3.2	18.6
9.16	Central Mr	57	+ 1	5.1	18.2
24.20	Cook (DC)	56½	+ 1½	3.5	8.3
458.00	Cosalt	278	- 9	4.2	12.1
31.00	Dag Mshyrs	500	. .	1.9	10.8
22.10	Dawsons B	500	. .	1.9	11.1
242.60	Diploma	434	- 2	4.5	.
1,450.20	Electrocomponts	343	+ 16	2.2	23.2
139.60	Expnds. Elec	253	. .	3.2	18.6
9.16	Central Mr	57	+ 1	5.1	18.2
24.20	Cook (DC)	56½	+ 1½	3.5	8.3
458.00	Cosalt	278	- 9	4.2	12.1
31.00	Dag Mshyrs	500	. .	1.9	10.8
22.10	Dawsons B	500	. .	1.9	11.1
242.60	Diploma	434	- 2	4.5	.
1,450.20	Electrocomponts	343	+ 16	2.2	23.2
139.60	Expnds. Elec	253	. .	3.2	18.6
35.80	Exndcitor	73	+ 5	14.0	4.2
52.50	Europcar Gp	68	+ 3	6.8	8.2
88.60	Evans Halshw	268	- 5	6.8	8.8
933.00	Farnell Electr	684	+ 15	5.8	10.8
80.20	Fits Indstr	66	. .	4.8	10.0
20.40	Gardner	18	. .	6.7	.
11.00	Glenchestor	36½	+ 7	1.6	.
7.91	Grtrmng	65	+ ½	17.4	14.3
30.30	Hardy (Peter)	186	+ 4	4.8	12.9
82.00	Headlam	197	+ 6	2.7	17.3
263.50	Henlys	688	. .	2.5	18.6
4.18	Holmes Tech	12	. .	8.3	24.2
60.00	ISA Ind	150	- 3	1.4	18.4
1,240.80	Inchcape†	235	- 10	8.0	21.3
6.48	Jacks. (Wm)	60	. .	1.6	11.4
312.90	Kndl-Fit	181	- 2	3.2	15.5
309.80	Lex Service	287	+ 4	4.2	13.5
29.10	Lockers	149	. .	6.4	8.2
17.20	Malays Grp	10½	- ½	5.7	14.2
54.20	Middlsmr	8½	- ½	0.7	19.5
20.00	Mitchlsn	38	- 1	. .	5.6
53.40	Newbsln	513	+ 36	1.2	17.8
42.80	Nichlsnsn	262	- 8	0.9	30.2
12.30	PCT	137	. .	7.7	9.6
104.90	Pochngtn	270	+ 5	3.3	13.1
39.50	Perry Grt	156	. .	6.1	11.8
32.30	Ogdns Grnnl	140	. .	5.1	11.9
16.70	REA	168	- 7	2.7	22.4
3.51	Reece	42	. .	. .	.
33.50	Rexson	32½	- ½	3.0	10.7
5.17	Rees Gp	3½	. .	. .	.
53.10	SEP Indl	59	- ½	2.5	19.7
23.90	Sidlaw	10	- ½	. .	5.7
30.70	TLS	68	- 1	3.4	11.6
139.40	Tmm Products	254	- 2	4.6	14.7
127.50	Vardy (Roy)	275	+ 10	2.6	17.5
48.50	Wadkn'sn Pips	45	+ 20	4.7	15.6
55.80	Wilsdnsnt	60	. .	1.7	14.3
43.30	Wyko	86	. .	1.8	.
17.10	Young (H)	40	. .	4.4	15.8

DIVERSIFIED INDUSTRIALS

Mkt cap (million)	Company	Price (p)	Wkly +/-	Yld %	P/E
163.40	Ackrod	125½	- 1½	7.8	10.1
444.80	Ackr/Appleyard	283	. .	2.9	13.3
16,220.00	Boston Hill	1260	+ 25	2.7	19.5
12,709.30	BTR	332	+ 8½	5.1	14.8
17,221.20	BATS	557½	- 10½	5.1	12.7
760.80	Bertelsmn Ind	172	. .	1.1	45.5
179.70	Bibby (J)	115	- 1	6.5	.
1,327.70	Bntarley Inv	479½	. .	4.2	27.7
688.20	Charter	782	- 12	3.9	12.8
2,077.70	Cookson†	306	+ 10	3.9	19.4
1,953.50	Cradio Eng	137	- 3	5.3	15.5
1,027.60	Harrsn Cradd†	145	- 3	7.8	15.4
13,494.50	Hutch Whmsp	372½	+ 24½	2.1	19.8
2,858.50	Jardine Matt	403½	+ 35½	4.6	8.8
486	Jourdan (T)	57	. .	5.9	7.2
1,204.90	Lonhp	162	- 1	4.3	23.2
104.90	McLeod Russell†	172	+ 6½	4.7	.
39.70	Porter Chadbn	42	. .	. .	4.8
402.00	Powell Dufryn	468	+ 1	6.8	12.1
34.60	Rapnor	148	. .	7.8	10.2
3,424.00	Slnsr Hldy	1662	+ 2	2.9	14.8
239.80	Staveley†	269	- 3	5.1	14.3
209.00	Sytec	178	- 1	5.6	11.8
432.30	TT Group	270	+ 3	2.6	15.2
3,145.60	Tomkins	265	+ 7	5.2	14.7
258.60	Tratagar H	74	. .	. .	5.2
57.40	Unicare	295	. .	6.4	.
101.50	Wardle Storeys	358	- 2	5.6	.
488.80	Vinccell	283	- 6	2.2	14.4
62.50	Wallcrdft	180	. .	5.6	11.3
1,685.00	Williams Hldg	325	- 7½	5.3	15.1

ELECTRICITY

Mkt cap (million)	Company	Price (p)	Wkly +/-	Yld %	P/E
1,781.80	East Midlands	898	+ 26	4.0	12.2
2,435.00	Eastern Grp	974	. .	3.6	13.0
1,533.10	Electricity Elec	1033	+ 44	4.4	12.3
1,109.20	Manweb	1029	+ 6	3.9	14.0
1,776.30	Midlands	931	- 2	5.1	9.5
5,526.20	National Power†	464	+ 9½	5.8	12.2
6,140.80	Nat Power PIPT	173	+ 5½	4.3	8.9
823.70	Northern Elec	934	+ 14	4.7	11.8
6,39.50	Nthn Ireland	449	+ 4	3.7	11.0
1,801.00	Norweb	1025	. .	3.5	10.8
3,889.40	PowerGen†	535	+ 17½	4.6	9.8
1,357.40	PowerGen PrPf†	221	+ 19½	3.9	11.8
1,363.90	Hydro-Elec	955	+ 6	4.9	10.3
3,511.90	Scottish Power	374	- 11	4.8	10.9
1,570.60	Seebord	640	- 2	2.8	13.7
1,028.20	Sth Wales	1108	+ 81	4.1	11.3
1,026.50	Sth Western	900	. .	4.0	10.6
2,508.90	Southern Elec	919	- 4	4.8	10.0
1,855.90	Yorkshire Elec	898	+ 10	4.2	11.3

ELECTRONIC & ELECT

Mkt cap (million)	Company	Price (p)	Wkly +/-	Yld %	P/E
101.10	Acal	524	+ 15	1.8	21.0
133.00	Accm Comp	148	. .	. .	.
99.00	Admiral	798	. .	1.3	20.9
116.80	Alba	252	. .	2.6	17.2
306.40	Amstrad†	263	- 20	2.2	.
25.30	Arlen	34	- 2	2.2	11.8
374.90	Aslec	121½	- 1	1.3	18.9
133.70	Aztec	497	+ 9	0.8	22.1
1,009.50	BICC†	295	+ 1	5.5	16.6
34.90	Bailey Hosker	226	. .	4.4	10.3
137.50	Blick	448	- 7	3.3	14.4
826.00	Bowthorpe†	429	+ 6	2.7	19.6
6.96	Bglgh (AF) 'A'	36½	+ ½	1.5	10.5
55.10	CML Micro	135	+ 7	9.6	14.1
25.50	Chasnd Hldgs	38	- 2	5.9	7.9
95.40	Chloride	275	+ 4	1.8	29.9
13.90	Clayhithe	75	+ 4	5.1	18.7
27.00	Coppmoss	208	. .	4.9	27.1
116.20	Cray Elect	419	- 2	6.4	.
89.50	Crckley	243	. .	2.0	21.2
1,076.20	Dnka Rs Sys	543	+ 3	0.5	29.2
598.80	Delta	374	- 27	5.2	12.9
107.60	Domino	403	+ 11	3.1	13.2
95.60	Dowding MOts	64	+ 3	3.4	17.0
1,450.00	Dwsk	2450	+ 100	0.7	32.3
1,993.50	Electrocm 'B'	2800	+ 37½	4.5	4.2
33.60	Emess	31½	. .	0.4	.
13,510.40	Ericsson 'B	1543½	+ 3½	2.8	10.7
36.00	Eurocopy	78	+ 2	3.6	14.8
508.00	Eurotherm	524	. .	1.4	26.7
437.80	Farey Group	535	- 1	1.7	22.9
303.20	Filtronic Com	484	- 13	0.2	77.4
82.30	Forward Gp	605	- 3	1.4	25.9
31.10	Forward Tech	90	+ 8	3.5	12.6
8,562.50	GEC	372	- 6	4.6	14.9
62.70	Gresley	102	. .	6.1	11.7
41.30	Ind Control	102	- 1	4.4	20.3
11.90	Intrnts	29½	+ ½	3.2	37.4
109.20	Kenwood App	238	+ 3	5.3	10.6
9.60	Kode	18½	+ 2	. .	.
34.00	LPA Ind	34	. .	5.2	24.2
90.30	MTL Inst	278	+ 11	2.2	15.4
137.20	Marwin-Sw	269	- 5	2.4	17.3
38.60	Microvitec	52½	. .	1.9	17.7
451.50	Micro Focus	408	+ 19	. .	16.4
205.80	Oxford Inst	215	- 1	2.3	16.4
6.25	Pace Systmcs†	133	+ 2	3.2	17.4
121.20	Pnkn	161	. .	4.2	16.3
8,571.30	Philips Lmp nv	2531½	+156½	2.8	10.8
21.20	Pilkn	28	. .	3.6	10.2
14.80	Plico 'A' Vtg	211	. .	2.9	13.2
6.86	Plssmec	143	. .	3.9	17.4
50.60	Prosnict	137	- 5	5.2	.
14.20	Prsbrick	35	- 4	. .	13.9
182.40	Psion	218	+ 68	0.6	32.5
5.62	Quadnics Int	15	. .	2.1	41.3
712.70	Racal Elec	253	- 8	2.5	19.6
15.00	Redmond	87	+ 1	3.4	17.9
97.00	Rembrd	487	+ ½	. .	22.9
54.00	Rnshw	286	- 3	2.4	13.6
4.73	Scantronic	9	. .	. .	.
33.90	Silvermere	53	+ 3	2.5	14.1
3.43	Soundtrac	34	- 2	9.2	9.8
56.30	Stores	226	. .	2.5	15.8
1.00	TDS	3	. .	. .	.
4,442.30	TDK	3378½	+196½	1.0	.
20.80	Tadpole Tech	79	- 3	. .	.
132.00	Telemetrix	138	- 1	4.3	10.0
21.10	Tll	58	+ 6	3.4

DTI mission to catch up on the road to Mandalay

BY JON ASHWORTH

THE Department of Trade and Industry is to host its first sponsored mission to Burma, amid growing interest in investment opportunities there. Eligible UK companies will be offered travel grants of £1,000 each towards the visit, which is scheduled for late February. There are places for up to 20 participants.

The trip is highly controversial, given Burma's dismal record on human rights. In the past, the West has done its best to discourage investment, but interest has been steadily picking up since the release, in July, of Aung San Suu Kyi, the democracy activist and Nobel laureate. Ms Suu Kyi had been under house arrest for nearly six years.

Several European countries, including the UK, Germany and France, are now actively promoting trade with Burma. The DTI has identified opportunities for export to Burma, particularly in hard currency earning sectors, such as oil, gas and tourism.

Potential earnings from tourism are said to be enormous. It is claimed that annual tourist and business arrivals have increased from under 10,000 to 100,000 in the past four years.

The ruling junta has declared 1996 "Visit Myanmar Year" — it renamed the country six years ago — and hopes to have boosted visitor numbers to 1 million by the end of the decade. New hotels are springing up in prime destinations such as Rangoon, Pagan, Mandalay and Inle Lake. Heavy investment is required in roads, rail, power and telecommunications.

Visitors to Burma are struck by the almost total absence of British goods and services — and the speed with which some of Burma's South-East Asian neighbours have been cashing in.

Air Mandalay, flying Franco-Italian ATR turboprops, was launched in October 1994 as a joint venture between Burma and Singapore. Malaysian investors have since taken a stake. Thai investors are financing Yangon Airways, a new domestic airline, which is due to start flying in January.

China supplies Burma with arms and ammunition. Money is pouring into joint ventures from Thailand, Taiwan, Japan, Hong Kong, Singapore, Malaysia and South Korea. Brunei is showing an interest.

Tourism provides an obvious peg for UK investors. Roads and airports are being revamped, but hotels remain woefully lacking.

Pagan, probably the most stunning destination in the whole of Asia, has only seven hotels, and is prone to water shortages. Supplies have been known to dry up completely at peak times.

Corruption is rife in Burma. Local travel representatives pay bribes of up to $100 a time just to secure a seat on an aircraft. Hotel bookings made weeks in advance are frequently cancelled at short notice — simply because somebody else turned up first. It is not the easiest place to do business.

Ms Suu Kyi has urged foreign investors to be extremely wary, and consider investments that will benefit the Burmese people rather than the military regime.

The argument is the same with tourism: if you go, stay in privately-run guest houses, and save your dollars for local traders and shopkeepers.

☐ The DTI is hosting an introductory seminar on investment in Burma at the London Chamber of Commerce tomorrow. Details from Jeanette Stevens on 0171-215 8039.

Pay bonus for LDV workers

The 1,380 employees at LDV, the Birmingham vanmaker born out of the collapse of Leyland DAF in 1993, will get a pre-Christmas payout averaging £370 each after a successful year of "solid progress".

Allan Amey, chief executive, said the company would exceed its profit target this year. "We have had another year of solid progress, with vehicle output increasing twice to satisfy growing demand from UK and export customers," he said.

Pension rules

A key ruling on occupational pension schemes is expected from the Birmingham Industrial Tribunal today. Total compensation could amount to £95 million. The test case is on behalf of 60,000 part-timers claiming for back-dated benefits from occupational pension schemes.

Coal plans

Coal Investments, which acquired a number of pits from British Coal two years ago, will go to its investors early next year to raise between £10 million and £20 million. The company is launching a rights issue to achieve planned production levels of 4.3 million tonnes a year.

New market

Representatives from companies planning to join Le Nouveau Marché, France's new market for smaller companies, will be in London tomorrow before the launch for the market on the Paris Bourse next February.

Greek oil

Anastasios Peponis, the Greek Minister for Industry, was in London last week spearheading the first leg of an international road show ahead of the first licensing round for petroleum exploration in western Greece.

Young says pay-off reports are nonsense

BY ERIC REGULY

LORD YOUNG of Graffham, the former chairman of Cable and Wireless, yesterday dismissed as "nonsense" newspaper reports that he is fighting for a pay-off of about £2.5 million even though he had no contract with the company.

He also suggested that a letter allegedly written by the late Lord Sharp, his predecessor, has no bearing on financial circumstances surrounding his departure. "How can a letter from [Lord Sharp] affect me?" he said.

C&W is trying to determine whether the letter from Lord Sharp, who died last year, could back any claim that Lord Young is owed a financial package. The company would not disclose the contents of the letter and apparently did not know it existed until last Friday.

C&W also wants to determine whether Lord Young has any right to be paid until February 27, 1997, when he turns 65. C&W's non-executive directors decided last month that he could remain chairman until then, and that James Ross, the chief executive, should leave within six months, but then ousted both.

Lord Young's salary was £479,000. He would receive almost £600,000 if it were determined that he is to be paid until February 1997.

Investors' compensation scheme to be reviewed

BY ROBERT MILLER

THE Investors Compensation Scheme (ICS), the ultimate safety net for investors who lose money through bad advice, theft or fraud, faces a radical overhaul to put it on a firmer financial footing.

The review has been given an added sense of urgency in view of the compensation bill it is likely to have to meet over the personal pensions mis-selling scandal. The scheme will have to step in where firms of independent financial advisers are unable to meet mis-selling compensation payouts.

The board of the Personal Investment Authority (PIA), the watchdog for firms selling directly to the public, where Joe Palmer is chairman and Colette Bowe is chief executive, is understood to have decided to launch the review at a meeting last month. It will begin with a discussion paper next month on ways in which the scheme can end the pay-as-you-go basis on which it has survived until now.

Since it started in 1988, the ICS has paid out nearly £100 million to 9,000 investors in 206 firms. These include Dunsdale Securities, the Levitt Group, and Diameter Stockbrokers.

The ICS has faced persistent legal challenges to the way in which it raises money. This summer, the PIA, which sends out bills to its members on behalf of the scheme, faced another legal challenge about the way in which it levied money from Sun Life, the insurer. The PIA was forced to postpone its annual levy and the scheme had to be bailed out by a £15 million line of credit from the Treasury to save it from going into receivership.



Colette Bowe and Joe Palmer of the PIA will launch the review with a discussion paper

The PIA board is understood to have taken legal advice on ways in which it could levy money, with a view to building up a fund on which to fall back in years when there are a great deal of claims. This could be done on a product-levy basis where every investment sold by a PIA member would include a sum to be contributed to the ICS in the same way that travel agents have a fund to cover failed holiday firms. However, such a scheme could work only as a voluntary system, because legal experts have said that to make it compulsory would constitute raising a tax and only Parliament has those powers.

Another alternative is to pre-fund the scheme so that every year members know what they have to contribute upfront, and any amount left over would be carried forward to the next financial year.

Kvaerner piles the pressure on Amec

BY OUR CITY STAFF

KVAERNER, the Norwegian industrial group, has increased the pressure on Amec shareholders to accept its £1-a-share takeover offer.

The group, owner of the Govan shipbuilding yard, says in a letter to the construction company's shareholders that its offer was final and would not be increased unless a rival bidder emerged.

Amec was last week required to drop its own takeover for another builder, Alfred McAlpine, after it was rejected.

In the letter, the Norwegians say: "Your board has talked about the 'true value of Amec's potential' but has not provided any facts in support. In considering whether to accept our offer, you should contrast the certainty of our 100p-per-share in cash now with the uncertain future value of Amec's shares.

"The difficulty of assessing that future has already been reflected in Alfred McAlpine's speedy rejection of your board's offer to acquire the company — and that offer itself indicates that your board considers that Amec should not continue on its own in its present form."

Kvaerner speaks for 18.1 per cent of Amec shares after open-market buying since the launch of its bid.

Many companies are credit risk, says study

BY OUR CITY STAFF

MORE THAN a quarter of Britain's 1.2 million limited companies are loss-making, and two-thirds of those are high-risk debtors, potentially unable to fulfil their credit commitments to suppliers, a report claimed yesterday.

As a result, many businesses find they are running up bad debts and jeopardising their own financial stability by supplying goods and services to customers who cannot pay for them, according to ICC, one of the UK's leading providers of company data, which carried out the research.

Angela Burdett, ICC managing director, said: "Bad debtors can range from the smallest businesses to the largest corporations, and are becoming an increasing problem for British industry."

The report coincides with the launch of ICC's *Credit Index*, a CD-Rom giving credit information on Britain's 1.2 million trading limited companies.

Time to cut without a run

GILT-EDGED

The Budget may have been an anticlimax for the gilt market, but the prospects for lower interest rates are good. Amid the compelling global pressures for lower rates, the foreign exchange market's worries about politically motivated rate cuts in the UK are bizarrely parochial.

The recent worrying slowdown in UK economic activity is part of a global trend. Thus the deceleration in GDP growth to 2.1 per cent in the third quarter was mirrored by a similar weakening in Germany and France. Although the US economy showed a surge in the third quarter, evidence suggests that it has joined the trend.

This should dispel lingering worries on the inflation front. Gilt-market bears made much of the pick-up in UK inflation in the summer, especially since it contrasted with the downward trend elsewhere.

However, the renewed fall in October is set to continue. The recent downturn in producer price inflation, coupled with a huge build-up in manufacturers' and retailers' stocks, suggests that retail price inflation will fall sharply early next year.

This should give the Chancellor ample room to cut interest rates. Indeed, since his Budget targets, and hence his scope for further tax cuts in next year's Budget, are based on achieving GDP growth of 3 per cent next year, he can ill afford not to. Fortunately, with the Federal Reserve and the Bundesbank also poised to cut rates, the Chancellor should also be able to do so with impunity.

It should be a similar story in the early part of next year, since the sluggish growth and subdued inflation combination will provide scope for further declines in interest rates, led by the US and Germany. This suggests that the idea floating around the foreign exchange markets that the Chancellor will attempt to "cut and run" on interest rates in a reckless attempt to revive the Government's popularity is wide of the mark. He is likely to find that rates can be cut without prompting a calamitous run on the pound.

Interest rates may have fallen by a full 1 per cent by the middle of 1996. Indeed, the risk is that they could fall even more sharply. An obvious factor is that economic activity could disappoint. A more intriguing possibility is that increasing speculation that the European drive to monetary union (EMU) is faltering could force interest rates lower still. The arguments over the terms and timing of EMU are raising the political and economic temperature. In Germany, the public's reluctance to lose the mark has led to calls for tougher membership criteria. In France, strikes are highlighting the Government's difficulties in meeting the budget deficit criteria for entry into EMU.

Repeated scares about the viability of EMU may spark financial market turmoil and damage business and consumer confidence. Since this would also be coupled with bursts of strength in the mark, the Bundesbank might be forced to cut interest rates further.

The UK should be able to capitalise on this by cutting interest rates too. Although sterling might initially be under pressure against the mark, the combination of weaker European economic activity and cuts in German interest rates would create the leeway for cuts in the UK.

Indeed, with a not insignificant risk of a breakdown in the EMU project, if not at next week's EU summit in Madrid, at next year's inter-governmental conference, the gilt market could reap a substantial economic and political gain.

MARK CLIFFE
HSBC Markets



LESS OF A BEATING WITH OUR CLUB

The Admiral's Club at Heathrow provides a welcome break for our First and Business Class passengers. Here, you can unwind with some of our special facilities, such as showers, massage chairs, complimentary refreshments and drinks. Or you can keep things rolling at the Club's business centre, which offers meeting facilities, fax and free local calls – all in the comfort of your own private lounge. Fly with us in comfort on our 22 non-stop flights to the Arabian Gulf every week, enjoying a host of special services, and discover our own special style of traditional hospitality. Gulf Air. Come aboard for a world of difference.

GULFAIR طيران الخليج

FOR MORE INFORMATION ON ROUTES AND SERVICES, CONTACT YOUR LOCAL TRAVEL AGENT OR GULF AIR LONDON RESERVATIONS 0171 408 1717, SALES 0171 411 4440; MANCHESTER RESERVATIONS 0800 262972/0800 269171/4370100.

LEGAL & PUBLIC NOTICES 0171-782 7344

LEGAL NOTICES

IN PARLIAMENT
SESSION 1995-96

ALLIED IRISH BANKS

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that application is being made to Parliament in the present Session by Allied Irish Banks, p.l.c. ("AIB") for an Act under the above name or short title for the purposes of which the following is a concise summary:-

To provide for the vesting in AIB Group Northern Ireland plc of part of the banking and related businesses of AIB, AIB Capital Markets plc and AIB Finance Limited; for such vesting to take place on dates to be determined by the directors of AIB and, in relation to the businesses of AIB Finance Limited in Northern Ireland, the directors of AIB Finance Limited; the validation of references in deeds and other instruments; the saving of contracts, statutory provisions and other documents; the powers, authorities, negotiable instruments, bailment, securities and proceedings and the provisions of the Bankers' Books Evidence Act 1879; the continuance of accounts and of interests in land; and the application of the Inlands Act to Scotland and Northern Ireland.

On and after 4th December 1995 a copy of the Bill may be inspected and copies obtained at the price of 50p each at the principal office of AIB in England, Bankcentre - Britain, Belmont Road, Uxbridge, Middlesex, UB8 1HA; at the registered office of AIB NI in Northern Ireland, 4 Queen's Square, Belfast BT1 3DJ; at the Branch Office of AIB Bank at 19 Charlotte Square, Edinburgh EH2 4DE and at the offices of the AIB Group Law Agent in Dublin and the Parliamentary Agents in London mentioned below.

Objection to the Bill may be made by depositing a Petition against it. If the Bill originates in the House of Commons the latest date for depositing such a Petition in the Private Bill Office of that House will be 30th January 1996; if it originates in the House of Lords the latest date for depositing such a Petition in the office of the Clerk of the Parliaments in that House will be 6th February 1996. Further information may be obtained from the Private Bill Office of the House of Commons, the office of the Clerk of the Parliaments, House of Lords, or the under-mentioned Parliamentary Agents.

Dated 27th November 1995

BRYAN SHERIDAN
AIB Group
Bankcentre
Ballsbridge, Dublin 4
Group Law Agent

SHERWOOD & CO
35 Great Peter Street
Westminster
London SW1P 3LR
Parliamentary Agents

LEGAL, PUBLIC, COMPANY & PARLIAMENTARY NOTICES
TO PLACE NOTICES FOR THIS SECTION PLEASE TELEPHONE
0171-782 7344 OR FAX: 0171-782 7827
Notices are subject to confirmation and should be received by 2.30pm two days prior to insertion.

NOTICE TO CREDITORS AND BENEFICIARIES TO SEND IN CLAIMS UNDER TRUSTEE ACT 1925

RE : DOREEN JESSIE SCUTT

PURSUANT to The Trustee Act 1925 NOTICE is given that all creditors and others having claims against or claiming to be beneficially interested in the estate of DOREEN JESSIE SCUTT late of 4 Tower Street Alton in Hampshire who died on 23rd September 1995 and whose Will was proved in the District Probate Registry at Winchester on 9th November 1995 by Bevis George Thompson and Barbara Jean Thompson the Executors named in it are required to send particulars in writing to the undersigned Solicitors on or before 15th February 1996 after which date the said Executors will proceed to distribute the assets of the deceased among the persons entitled to them having regard only to the claims of which they have had notice and shall not be liable for the assets of the deceased or any part of them so distributed to any person or persons of whose claims or demands they shall have not had notice.

Dated this 30th day of November 1995
Downie & Gadban
100 High Street, Alton, Hampshire. GU34 1ER.
Solicitors for the Executors

Seaside Music Limited (IN LIQUIDATION)
THE INSOLVENCY ACT 1986
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN in accordance with the provisions of Rule 11.2 of the Insolvency Rules 1986 that a first & final dividend will be paid within a period of four months from the last date of proving. The last date for creditors to prove claims in this liquidation is 2nd January 1996.
Creditors of the above named Company should send their addresses, descriptions and full particulars of their debt or claims to K.D. Goodman, FCA Leonard Curtis & Co PO Box 563, 30 Eastbourne Terrace, London W2 6LF. Under Rule 11.3(2) a Liquidator is not obliged to deal with claims lodged after the date of proving.
DATED 29th of November 1995
K.D. GOODMAN, Liquidator.

HOBEACH Limited (IN LIQUIDATION)
THE INSOLVENCY ACT 1986
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN in accordance with the provisions of Rule 11.2 of the Insolvency Rules 1986 that a first & final dividend will be paid within a period of four months from the last date of proving. The last date for creditors to prove claims in this liquidation is 2nd January 1996.
Creditors of the above named Company should send their addresses, descriptions and full particulars of their debt or claims to K.D. Goodman, FCA Leonard Curtis & Co PO Box 563, 30 Eastbourne Terrace, London W2 6LF. Under Rule 11.3(2) a Liquidator is not obliged to deal with claims lodged after the date of proving.
DATED 29th of November 1995
K.D. GOODMAN, LIQUIDATOR.

New ERA Studios Limited (IN LIQUIDATION)
THE INSOLVENCY ACT 1986
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN in accordance with the provisions of Rule 11.2 of the Insolvency Rules 1986 that a first & final dividend will be paid within a period of four months from the last date of proving. The last date for creditors to prove claims in this liquidation is 2nd January 1996.
Creditors of the above named Company should send their addresses, descriptions and full particulars of their debt or claims to K.D. Goodman, FCA Leonard Curtis & Co PO Box 563, 30 Eastbourne Terrace, London W2 6LF. Under Rule 11.3(2) a Liquidator is not obliged to deal with claims lodged after the date of proving.
DATED 29th of November 1995
K.D. GOODMAN, LIQUIDATOR.

Brightcluster Limited
Registered number. 2173981.
Trading name: Brightcluster Ltd.
Administrative Receivers: Shirley Angela Jackson AND Michael Colin John Sanders both of BEGBIE NORTON, Cromwell House Fulwood Place Grays Inn London WC1V 6HZ Date of appointment: 28 November 1995.
By whom appointed: Allied Dunbar Assurance plc. Type and date of instrument of appointment: Debenture dated 27th September 1990.

Freeway Trade Services Limited T/A Colchester Transport Services
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to Section 98 of The Insolvency Act 1986 that a meeting of the creditors of the above-named Company will be held at 7 Kenrick Place, London W1H 3FF, on 6th December 1995 at 12 noon for the purposes provided for in Section 98 et seq.
A list of names and addresses of the above Company's Creditors can be inspected at the offices of Latham Cressey & Davis, 7 Kenrick Place, London W1H 3FF, between the hours of 10.00 am and 4.00 pm on the two business days preceding the Meeting of Creditors.
Dated 29th November 1995.
A. Trisio, Director.

THE INSOLVENCY ACT 1986
ANGLO INTERNATIONAL TRADING CO LIMITED
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to Section 98 of the Insolvency Act 1986 that a MEETING of the CREDITORS of the above named Company will be held on 13th December 1995 at 4 Charterhouse Square, London, EC1M 6EN, at 2.30pm for the purposes mentioned in Section 99 et seq of the said Act.
NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN that Maurice Raymond Dorrington, FCA of Poppleton & Appleby, 4 Charterhouse Square, London, EC1M 6EN is appointed to act as the qualified Insolvency Practitioner pursuant to Section 98(2)(a) of the said Act who will furnish Creditors, free of charge, with such information concerning the Company's affairs as they may reasonably require. Dated this 24th day of November 1995.
By Order of the Board C.M. BASTONE, Director

Business needs the vision to make this big idea fly

After privatisation, the private finance initiative. If there was a big idea in the Budget, it was the accelerated drive to force the private sector to design, build, finance and operate what used to be public-sector investments. On Government plans, the private sector might own £14 billion of such assets in ten years' time. So far, however, most of effort has been made in the public sector, and by lawyers, accountants, consultants and investment bankers who alone can be certain of making money from it.

Treasury cynics have been persuaded that the PFI programme will happen. Labour, which campaigned for British Rail to be allowed to lease trains, would pragmatically follow the Tory lead. Labour opponents of private finance in health and education merely suspect ministers' motives. Labour ministers need not doubt their own motives.

Some converted mandarins already believe that the private sector's efficiency will more than compensate for its higher capital costs. Cash-starved vice-chancellors and health quangos have been enthused by the vision: they might finally achieve those cherished capital projects that are knocked off the budget every year. Price Waterhouse will train up to 10,000 civil servants in the mysteries of PFI. The business-led Private Finance Panel will have someone at the elbow of seven Whitehall permanent secretaries. Eventually, rougher town hall folk may be inducted into the rituals.

These are, however, only the potential customers for services that new roads, hospitals or incinerators provide. Business has to do the work, finance the projects and take risks over many years.

Sir Christopher Bland, chairman of the Private Finance Panel, accepts that the private sector does not yet have enough of the corporate vehicles needed to handle PFI projects on the scale now planned. But he argues that market forces will soon follow the business. Sir Alastair Morton, who led the panel until the latest Eurotunnel crisis, bemoans the lack of really big British public service operators such as France's Générale des Eaux and Lyonnaise des Eaux. "One longs" he mused "to see ICI, Shell, BP, and RTZ bringing their historic project management and facilities operating skills into this new field of business."



GRAHAM SEAFIELD

No single solution is likely. There is a huge difference between a regional facility for burning clinical waste, promoted with no fuss by Northumbrian Water, and the £2.7 billion Channel Tunnel rail link, which will dominate early PFI numbers. The two French utility groups, along with French mega-contractor Bouygues, were deeply embedded in Britain before Lyonnaise bought Northumbrian. Together with British water companies, they would have no trouble revamping Scotland's water and sewage services via PFI contracts. Hospitals and prisons can likewise attract existing British or American expertise and financing. Where the long-term service element is less intensive, well-financed builder/developers such as Taylor Woodrow, John Laing and P&O could show the way, along with the more able commercial property developers.

Once lawyers and accountants sort out the mind-bogglingly complex contracts, so that new projects can be set up faster, routine projects can steam ahead, though the time gap could cost a further 35,000 construction jobs. The perils of PFI and the inadequacies of the private sector centre on projects over £100 million — mainly on roads and other transport infrastructure — which would make up the bulk of the mooted £14 billion. Even before such projects start, heavy bidding costs and planning delays raise the risks. So bidders will seek long contracts requiring even more funding.

The most famous precedents offer little help. Trafalgar House's Dartford Bridge was a financial success, but luckily had revenues from an existing tunnel to help financing. The disasters of Eurotunnel ensure that the public will not back client companies that take the risk but have little control. Outside investors will only back projects that are up and running.

Last month, I argued that the construction industry was undercapitalised and needed bigger firms. Since then, Tarmac has swapped divisions with Wimpey and Kvaerner has bid for Amec. This shake-up is only just beginning. It will need to involve bigger, more broadly based groups. Consortia set up to bid for design-and-build road contracts do not look stable enough to handle long-term PFI investment. And there are too many of them. Early contracts could go at such low prices that financial disasters during the learning process discredit the PFI.

In ten years' time, London could have a quoted motorway sector like Spain's. British utilities, whose efforts to diversify are now derided, might be allowed to spread their wings. Pension funds might own chunks of universities. None of this will happen unless the City's institutional investors and fund managers — now mostly as ignorant as they are sceptical — become the educated converts to PFI that ministers hope will soon fill Whitehall.

Whisky mixes with a younger set



The Budget provided an overdue lift for Scotch whisky

Christine Buckley finds a new spirit abroad in the industry

The famous grouse that symbolises the whisky of the same name would look at home amid the steady drizzle sweeping over the pine trees of Speyside and down to the bubbling stretch of the Spey passing by Tamdhu distillery.

But it is not here, at the heart of one of Scotland's main whisky producing areas, that The Famous Grouse is doing its bit for its owner, Highland Distilleries, or for the fluffing up of the whisky industry in general. The latest advertising push for The Famous Grouse is keen to divorce the game bird from its heathery background and instill a measure of fun into the brand.

Now the bird is becoming a more amusing character. A whisky with water is depicted by the grouse standing in a pool of water and is indicative of a general drive to bring whisky drinking to a wider audience.

The grouse is adapting, along with the rest of the industry, to chase a domestic market in which dark spirits are tumbling increasingly down the trendy agenda. Whisky is at an image crossroads as it tries to tuck itself into divergent niches. A myriad of different types of whisky are attempting to intoxicate a wide range of lifestyles.

Bell's is targeting the all-important younger drinker with increased advertising in magazines such as *GQ* and *Esquire*. There is concern in the industry to stop whisky skipping a generation. It has long been the case that whisky drinkers come to the spirit beyond the age of 35, after a youth of sinking pints. Bell's is now promoting whisky bars in nightclubs where the emphasis is on drinking whisky with a mixer.

Whisky drinking, marketing strategists believe, has an undeveloped sexiness. Heavily jumpered golfers are fairly safe bets to stroll off the last green and indulge in a malt at the 19th. Not so late-night revellers who may perceive whisky as one step away from the pipe and slippers.

Mixing whisky with anything but ginger ale has been frowned upon by many loyal drinkers, but it is increasingly fuelling the resurgence of the drink overseas. Where the younger market is just starting to be courted in the UK, it is positively thriving in other parts of the globe.

In Thailand young club goers will consider drinking little else. Groups of friends buy bottles for their tables, where they will be shared as diners share wine. Thailand is the single biggest market for Johnnie Walker Black Label, which, with Bell's, is part of the Guinness whisky stable. Black Label outsells Chivas Regal, its nearest competitor, there by four to one. In Italy drinking single malt whisky with Coke is positively *de rigeur*.

Further image raising for whisky has been effected by the lifting of the ban on television advertising for spirits. So far no whisky producer has taken TV advertising nationwide after moving to regional campaigns, especially in Scotland and the Grampian region, after the ban was rescinded in September. But several have said they are on the verge of full-scale advertising in the new year.

Then there is the piquant issue of price. Whisky producers are both suffering from tight prices and benefiting from the big shift downwards which has seen own-brands, particularly those produced by supermarkets, steadily increase their presentation and quality and lift sales. The older single malts produced by Sainsbury and other leading supermarkets are gradually increasing their reputation, so that buyers are feeling less urgency to heave their purchases straight into decanters, leaving their guests in doubt about their origins. Cheaper prices are instilling a more everyday character into whisky.

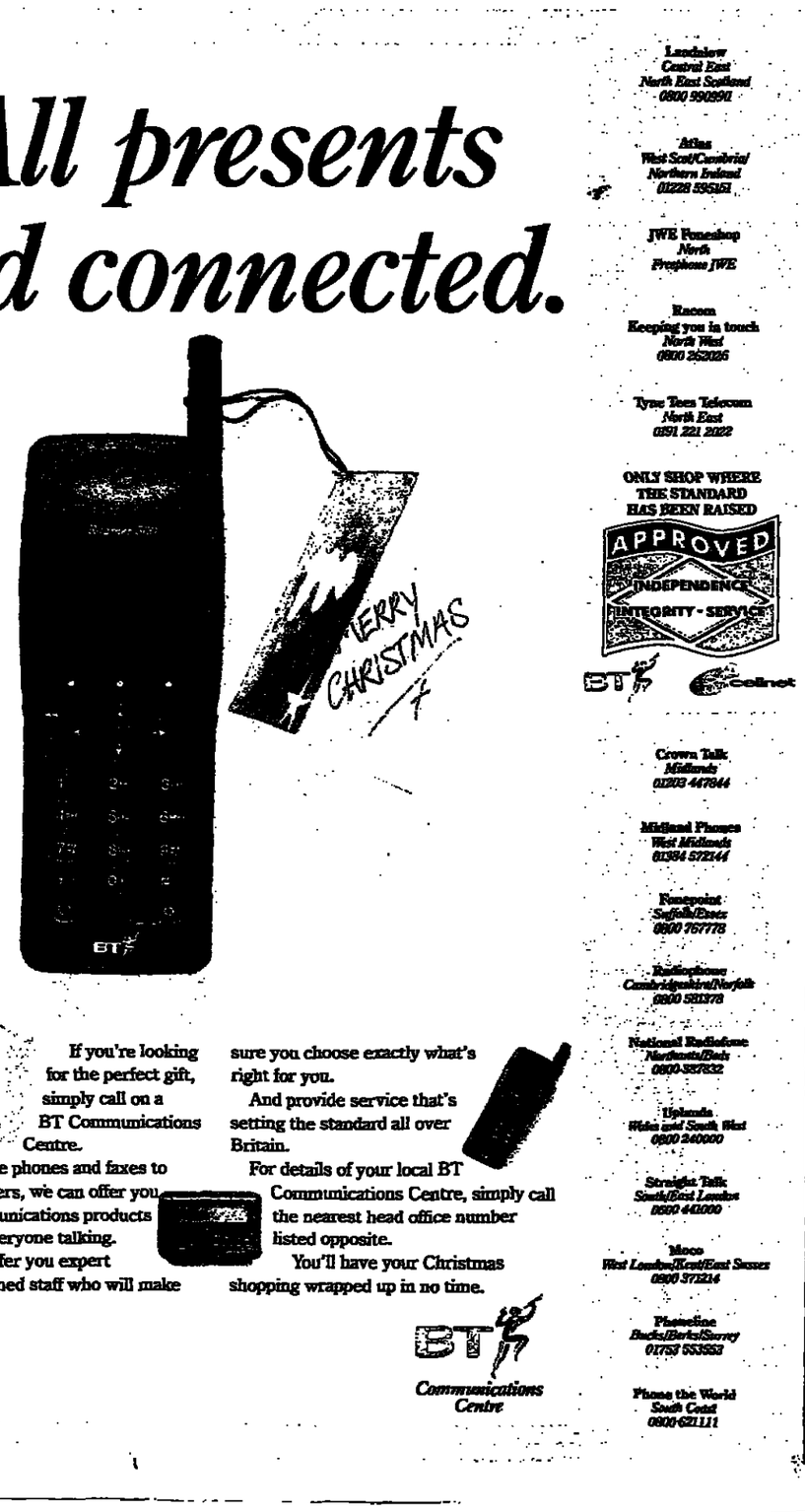
The urgency of the industry's quest for growth opportunities has been sharpened by the increasing price pressures in the UK. Prices of blended whiskies and single malts have tumbled as the supermarkets have tightened their grip, pressing suppliers to squeeze margins. Forcing own-brands into the smallest price range has pushed whisky producers to talk of collective action in setting their charges. They have, however, stopped short of this and such a concerted effort seems unlikely.

They are also under intense pressure to reverse drifting sales in the home market. Whisky sales for home use have been on the slide for many years and the decline over the past five years has been gradual but unrelenting. It has fallen from 41 million bottles in 1990 to 37.3 million last year.

The Budget's favourable treatment of whisky, with its 4 per cent immediate reduction in duty on spirits — which means a 27p reduction on the price of a litre bottle — will provide a welcome lift, especially in the important pre-Christmas trade. It will stimulate exports — a crucial area for Scotch whisky — but whisky producers are still baying for more action that will reduce the discrepancy between the duty on spirits and that charged on wines and beer.

It is too early to say if the reversal of duty to its level of last winter, before the Government levied an extra amount after its move to increase VAT on fuel was defeated, will make for a transformation of the UK whisky market.

For the large players such as Guinness and Allied Domecq the impact on profits will not be huge, given their large exposure to overseas markets. But for the smaller independent companies, such as Macdonald Martin, Burn Stewart and Highland Distilleries, the boost will be invigorating. The grouse is likely to find the world away from its traditional heather more lucrative and more receptive than it expected.



Twin peeks

THE secret is out. David and Frederick Barclay, the reclusive twins who recently added the Ritz and *The Scotsman* to their collection, do have a distinguishing characteristic. Anyone fortunate enough to recognise them — they are prone to suing anyone who dares to publish their photograph — should examine their hair. Frederick parts his on the left: David on the right. These, and other facts about the 61-year-old brothers, surface in the January issue of *Harpers & Queen*. The twins, reputedly worth £500 million, are at their most visible in Monte Carlo, where they have a fine apartment, and breakfast daily at the Café de Paris. But don't bother sitting in the Ritz lobby with a copy of *Harpers* on your lap, hoping for a sight of them — the article has no photograph.

Over-qualified

YOU always suspected it: university degrees are not an instant ticket to the boardroom. Shortlisted candidates without degrees applying for management positions had a better chance of making it than more highly educated rivals, a survey has found. Non-degree holders had a one in four chance of success, compared with one in five for degree holders. Elisabeth Marx, head of psychological assessment at NB Selection, the recruitment consultant, said: "Qualities like motivation, management style and ability to adapt to change are a better indication of a candidate's chances of success."

THE TIMES CITY DIARY

THESE lawyers sure know how to party. Martin Winter, senior partner-elect at Biddle & Co, the City law firm, was mingling with Sir Robin Day and other celebrities on Thursday evening at a party to mark the firm's 50th year in the shadow of St Paul's. Winter let slip that he was in the midst of finalising two big deals for Gartmore that evening, and had dragged himself away from his desk to quaff a little champagne with his guests. The first deal was clinched at 2am, the second at 8am Friday. "I didn't get any sleep," croaks Winter, who spent the rest of the day fending off remarks about the state of his suit.

RADIO CHOICE

Rembrandts of cinema

Cinema 100: Alchemists of Light. *Radio 3, 9.15pm.*

Colin Ford's interviews with ace lighting cameramen, whose cinematic artistry has consciously or unconsciously impressed us, begin with Vilmos Zsigmond. Painters, he says, are poets with light. The same can be said of Zsigmond. You only have to think of *Close Encounters of the Third Kind*, *The Deer Hunter*, and *Deliverance* to appreciate this. It is sad to hear a cinematographer of his distinction admitting that, because film-making is increasingly becoming governed by big business, limitations are imposed on his artistic input. It is as if a patron were to tell Rembrandt: "Don't bother about all that light and shade nonsense. Just get on with it!"

The Monday Play: Darling. *Radio 4, 7.45pm.*

Frederic Raphael's reworking of his 1965 Oscar-winning screenplay gives us another chance to run a finger gingerly along the sharp edge of his dialogue. It can still draw blood, though the sexually overactive model who becomes a princess (Julie Christie on film, Amanda Redman on radio) is very much a creature shaped by the Swinging Sixties. The world of *Darling* is a place where amoral socialites do not ask each other *how* they are doing, but *who*, and where marital fidelity means a woman not having more than one man in her bed at the same time. By using the F-word, Raphael's radio version shows how far literary permissiveness has travelled since *Darling* made its debut in 1965.

Peter Davalle

RADIO 1

FM Stereo. **4.00am** Clive Warren **6.30** Chris Evans **9.00** Simon Mayo **12.00** Lisa I'Anson **2.00** Nicky Campbell **4.00** Mark Goodier **7.00** Evening Session **9.00** Apache Indian live **10.00** Mark Radcliffe **12.00** Wendy Lloyd

RADIO 2

FM Stereo. **6.00am** Sarah Kennedy **7.30** Wake Up to Wogan **9.15** Pause for Thought **9.30** Ken Bruce **11.30** Jimmy Young **2.00pm** Debbie Thrower **3.30** Ed Stewart **5.05** John Dunn **7.00** Hubert Gregg, Thanks for the Memory **7.30** Malcolm Laycock with Dance Band Days, and at **8.00** Big Band Era **8.30** Big Band Special **9.00** Humphrey Lyttelton **10.00** Enchanted Evenings **10.30** The Jamesons **12.05am** Digby Fairweather **1.00** Steve Madden **3.00** Alex Lester

RADIO 5 LIVE

5.00am Morning Reports **6.00** The Breakfast Programme, incl at **6.55** and **7.55** Racing Preview **8.35** The Magazine, incl at **10.35** Euronews; **11.05** Going Bananas **12.00** Midday with Mair; **12.34pm** Moneycheck; **1.15** Entertainment News **2.05** Ruscoe on Five, incl at **2.35** Actuality; and at **3.45** Entertainment News **4.00** John Inverdale Nationwide, incl at **5.45** Entertainment News **7.00** News Extra, incl at **7.20** sport **7.35** Sportstrack **8.00** The Monday Match, Sheffield Wednesday v Coventry **10.05** News Talk **11.00** Night Extra, incl at **11.15** The Financial World Tonight **12.05am** The Other Side of Midnight **2.05** Up All Night

TALK RADIO

6.00am Sandy Warr **7.00** Simon Bates **10.00** Jonathan King **12.00** Tommy Boyd **2.00pm** Anna Raeburn **4.00** Scott Chisholm and Lowri Turner **7.00** Sean Bolger **9.00** Moz Dee **10.00** James Whale **1.00-6.00am** Ian Collins

WORLD SERVICE

All times in GMT. **5.00am** Newsday **5.30** Europe Today. **6.00** Newsday **6.30** Europa Today **7.00** News **7.15** Off the Shelf **7.30** The Vintage Chart Show **8.00** News **8.10** Words of Faith **8.15** The Greenfield Collection **9.00** News in German **9.15** Anything Goes **9.45** Sport **10.00** Newsdesk **10.30** BBC English **10.45** Off the Shelf **11.00** Newsdesk **11.30** Omnibus **12.00** News **12.05pm** Business **12.15** Britain Today **12.30** Purcell's London **1.00** Newshour **2.00** News **2.05** Outlook **2.30** John Peel **3.00** News in German **3.15** Concert Hall **4.00** News **4.15** The World Today **4.30** News in German **5.00** Europe Today **5.30** Business **5.45** Sport **6.00** Newsdesk **6.30** News in German **7.00** News Summary **7.01** Outlook **7.25** Words of Faith **7.30** Multitrack: Hit List **8.00** Newshour **9.00** News **9.05** Business **9.15** Britain Today **9.30** Omnibus **10.00** Newsdesk **10.30** The World Today **10.45** Sport **11.00** News **11.10am** Take Five **11.15** Ed Stewart **11.45** Development 95 **Midnight** Newsdesk **12.30am** Folk Routes **12.46** Britain Today **1.00** News **1.10** Press **1.15** Sinatra: A Master at Work **1.45** Health Matters **2.00** Newsday **2.30** Quote, Unquote **3.00** News **3.15** Sport **3.30** John Peel **4.00** Newsdesk **4.30** Europe Today

CLASSIC FM

4.00am Mark Griffiths **6.00** Nick Bailey **9.00** Henry Kelly **12.00** Susannah Simons **2.00pm** Concerto. **3.00** Jamie Crick **6.00** Newsnight **6.30** Sonata. **7.00** A to Z of Classical Music **8.00** Evening Concert. **10.00** Michael Mappin **1.00am** Sally Peterson

VIRGIN RADIO

6.00am Russ 'n' Jono's Breakfast Experience **9.00** Richard Skinner **12.00** Graham Dene **4.00pm** Nicky Horne **7.30** Paul Coyte **10.00** Mark Forrest **2.00-6.00am** Robin Banks

RADIO 3

6.00am On Air, with Andrew McGregor. Delius (The March of Spring, North Country Sketches); Rachmaninov (Piano Trio No 2 in D minor, Elegiac); Vaughan Williams (Serenade to Music); **7.32** Mozart (Symphony No 30 in D); **8.05** Gershwin (Overture: Strike Up the Band); Bach (Cantata No 210: O holder Tag, erwünschte Zeit, Wedding)

9.00 Morning Collection with Paul Gambaccini. Suppé (Overture, Poet and Peasant); Shostakovich (Preludes and Fugues, Op 87; No 1 in C; No 2 in A minor); Beethoven (Violin Sonata in D, Op 12 No 1); Falla (The Three-Cornered Hat, excerpts)

10.00 Musical Encounters. *Artist of the Week*: Catherine Bott, soprano. Vivaldi (Lungi dal vago volto); **10.18** Schoenberg (Accompaniment to a Film Scene); Debussy (Rodrigue et Chimène, excerpt); Granados (Piano Quintet in G minor); Prokofiev (*Sinfonietta*, Op 48); Haydn (Cello Concerto No 2 in D)

12.00 Composer of the Week: Robert Schumann. Gillean McDougall explores Schumann's music in reorchestrations and arrangements

1.00pm BBC Lunchtime Concert, live from St John's, Smith Square, London. Shura Cherkassky, piano, plays Debussy (Estampes); Schumann (Fantasiestücke, Op 111); Liszt (Sonata in B minor)

2.00 The BBC Orchestras BBC National Orchestra of Wales under David Atherton performs Chabrier (España); Messiaen (Un sourire); Ravel (Piano Concerto for the left hand: Peter Donohoe); Berlioz (Symphonie fantastique)

3.40 Fairest Isle: An Outside View. Frank Zappa

3.45 Fairest Isle: National Trust Instruments. Paul Nicholson plays the 1789 Kirkman harpsichord in Tatton Park, near Manchester

4.30 You Take Some Sides . . . Russell Davies unravels the complex relationship between black and white jazz musicians (4/5) (r)

5.00 The Music Machine. Caroline Swinburne visits the Sydney Opera House

5.15 In Tune, with Jeremy Nicholas. Offenbach (Overture, La Belle Hélène); **6.03** Chopin (Nocturne in C sharp minor, Op posth); **6.27** Schumann (Piano Concerto in A minor)

7.00 Fairest Isle: Britten Plus. A concert featuring songs by Britten and composers he admired such as Dowland

9.15 Cinema 100: Alchemists of Light. See Choice

9.35 Fairest Isle: Ethel Smyth. Serenade in D, first broadcast; Concerto for violin and horn

10.45 Mixing It. Techno prodigy Aphex Twin discusses distortion and the influence of Stockhausen

11.30-12.30am Ensemble. Coull Quartet, celebrating their 21st anniversary, plays Haydn and Borodin. Haydn (String Quartet in G minor, Op 20 No 3). Borodin (String Quartet No 2 in D)

RADIO 4

5.55am Shipping (LW only) **6.00** News; Weather **6.10** Farming **6.25** Prayer for the Day **6.30** Today, incl **6.30, 7.00, 7.30, 8.00, 8.30** News **7.25, 8.25** Sports News **7.45** Thought for the Day **8.40** One Year On **8.58** Weather

9.00-10.00, 11.00-3.40pm Test Match Special (LW)

9.00 News (FM only) **9.05 Start the Week** (FM only), presented by Melvyn Bragg and Mary Ann Sieghart of *The Times*. With Barbara Castle, John Barton, John Barrow and David Marquand

10.00-10.30 News; The Lipman Test (FM only)

10.00 Daily Service (LW only)

10.15 This Sceptr'd Isle (LW only)

10.30 Woman's Hour (FM only from 11.00), introduced by Jenni Murray

NB: The following are on FM only until 3.40pm

11.30 Money Box Live: 0171-580 4444 from 10am

12.00 News; You and Yours, with Chris Choi

12.25pm Who Goes There? Chairman Martin Young delves into the lives of the rich and famous **12.55** Weather

1.00 The World at One

1.40 The Archers (r) **1.55** Shipping Forecast

2.00 News; The Monday Play: Emily's Ghost. A Victorian ghost story by Colin Finbow (r)

3.00 The Afternoon Shift, with Laurie Taylor

4.00 News 4.05 Kaleidoscope. Lynne Walker considers the way angels remain a potent device on stage, screen and page

4.45 Short Story: Ice Dancing, by Rose Tremain. Read by Harry Towb

5.00 PM 5.50 Shipping Forecast **5.55** Weather

6.00 News 6.30 I'm Sorry I Haven't a Clue (r)

7.00 News 7.05 The Archers

7.20 The Food Programme (r)

7.45 The Monday Play: Darling. See Choice

9.15 Whose Freedom Is It Anyway? Third of five programmes in which Vera Frankl looks at how life has changed for women in Eastern Europe since 1989. Although a dissident for most of her life, Julia Vasarhelyi turned down the opportunity to be a full-time politician

9.30 Kaleidoscope (r) **9.59** Weather

10.00 The World Tonight

10.45 Book at Bedtime. Inside Mr Enderby (8/12)

11.00-11.30 Echoes (FM only): Felicity Schultz and John Teevan reflect on how their garden has become a haven for them in times of war, misunderstanding and intolerance (r)

11.00 Education Matters (LW only)

11.30-12.00 Great Escapes (FM only): Over the Wall. A reconstruction of the high-wire escape of two East Germans from Berlin in 1983 (2/4) (r)

11.30 Today in Parliament (LW only)

12.00 News, incl **12.27** Weather

12.30 The Late Book: Suciding Sherbert Lemons. David Holt reads Michael Carson's novel (1/10)

12.48 Shipping Forecast **1.00 As World Service**

FREQUENCY GUIDE. RADIO 1. FM 97.6-99.8. RADIO 2. FM 88.0-90.2. RADIO 3. FM 90.2-92.4. RADIO 4. FM 92.4-94.6; LW 198; MW 720. RADIO 5 LIVE. MW 693, 909. WORLD SERVICE. MW 648; MW 198 (12.45-5.55am). CLASSIC FM. FM 100-102. VIRGIN RADIO. FM 105.8; MW 1197, 1215. TALK RADIO UK. MW 1053, 1089. Television and radio listings compiled by Peter Dear, Gillian Maxey, Rosemary Smith and Susan Thomson

هكذا من الأصل

Hospital drama is in a critical condition

REVIEW



Lynne Truss

Hype informed us that Saturday's **Casualty** (BBC1) was a landmark episode. Like a fool, we fell for it. Would Baz choose Charlie over Peter? To anyone unfamiliar with the series, this Baz-Charlie-Peter thing may sound like RAF call code (Tango, Foxtrot), but to a substantial minority of the nation, it spelled out a potential swing in the sexual fortunes of a man who has made freckly forearms a surprisingly successful trademark. Suffice to say, Baz's bombshell exploded with a fizzle and pop at precisely 8.50pm on Saturday, when she said "Come to my hotel", and Charlie said "On one condition". This came as a rather fitting culmination to an episode so generally unsatisfactory that its most gripping aspect, for the audience, was memorising the new security code number for the staff room door.

Oh yes, I will never forget 9274.

Elsewhere, a story about tiresomely feuding river bargees (who didn't really mean it) entailed some of the worst footage of accidents since everyone on the *Starship Enterprise* lurched suddenly to the left. The staging of mishaps being the main technical requirement of *Casualty*, this whoops-bang stuff was a disappointment, although as usual it had its humorous aspect. When bargee Ian Hogg (blinking and staggering with undiagnosed glaucoma) welcomed aboard his boat an old football team all riven with terminal illness and sweaty recrimination, he needed only to mop his brow and say, "Don't worry about a thing, I can steer this thing with my eyes closed."

But Baz chose Charlie, and perhaps all the intensely unrealistic palaver was intentional. The other story entailed a mother and son acting shifty in the cubicle ("shifty" is a regular stage direction in *Casualty*). Those ever-alert nurses leapt to conclusions. Were the mother's injuries inflicted by the son? Things looked bad. But when all was finally revealed, the son was a good kid and the mother was bonkers! Well, well. She manifested her madness by buying him expensive presents! "She won't stop!" he screamed. "I don't want them!" "It's the thought that counts!" Parents throughout the country, weary and newly destitute from Christmas shopping, eyed their own teenage children, and heaved a meaningful sigh.

Nostalgia had an unbridled time this weekend. **The Beatles Anthology** (ITV) remembered Beatlemania and the Royal Variety Performance. The fab four returned from America, and interviewers asked them what it was like. On Channel 4's Soap Weekend, great moments from our postwar cultural heritage were held up for our delectation; but watching the *Beatles Anthology*, I was vividly reminded of life before video — when an appearance of the Beatles on television would finish and be gone, leaving a hole in your body, and the last chord hanging amid the echo of screams. In those funny old days, there was no rewind facility except memory.

But now the recent past is simply part of a continual present, and we experience the first-ever pile-up of history. If we wanted to forget anything, we are simply unable, because somewhere it's still going on. As a banal but pleasant example of this, Denis Healey had perhaps chosen to forget his gut-stiffening "Silly Billy" contribution to *Nationwide*'s 1980 panto. But the makers of last night's **The Wilderness Years** (BBC2) had no compunction about reminding the rest of us of Healey's peculiar showbiz sideline. They showed the clip with the dry comment from Moss Evans after: "He had a unusual sense of humour."

Suddenly it all came back: those *Blankety Blank* specials, with celebrities hidden behind Santa beards. Patrick Moore was always one of them, and Denis Healey was usually another. Interviewed for the programme, Healey admitted, "I regret not working harder for the leadership campaign; I might have saved the country four years of Thatcher government." So *now* he tells us.

A gritty, four-part history of the Labour Party, *The Wilderness Years* last night chronicled those raw party conferences when real politics was still shabby and visible, and anybody wearing a suit with a red rose would be denounced by a block vote of several million. It seems like a distant age, but only 15 years ago the leader of the Labour Party (Michael Foot) was shown visiting a literary editor to discuss books. He could mention Stendhal without anyone signalling at him to shut up. A senior politician (Healey) wedged himself into a mini, and the engine refused to start. So busy practising its own democracy, the Labour Party at this juncture forgot that important truth expressed so eloquently by an embittered former *Brookside* star on Channel 4's Soap Weekend — viz, "No one wants you when your head's up your arse."

The gaffes of old Labour politicians tend to pale, however, beside the hilarious vanity of Tories who accept booby-trapped invitations from the annual **Comedy Awards** (ITV, Saturday). This unmissable event is a clever exercise in controlled anarchy, brilliantly steered by Jonathan Ross, and providing endless joy and wonder for the viewer at home. Did John Redwood really think he'd been invited along on the strength of his comic gifts? No sooner had he gaffed splendidly on stage (by attempting jokes) than a clip from an old *Clive James Show* cruelly revealed his famous difficulty with the Welsh national anthem. Compared even with the pleasure of seeing *Father Ted* and *Is It Legal?* pick up their awards, Redwood's discomfort was sublime. And the amazing thing is, another politician will accept next year.

BBC1

6.00am Business Breakfast (67278)
7.00 BBC Breakfast News (47154471)
9.10 Kilroy (s) (9845051)
10.00 News (Ceefax) and weather (8465687)
10.05 Can't Cook, Won't Cook (s) (3136778)
10.30 Good Morning with Anne and Nick (s) (49758)
12.00 News (Ceefax) and weather (8881549) **12.05pm Pebble Mill**. Alan Titchmarsh is joined by Ray Cooney, Sylvia Syms and Hank Marvin (s) (5020181) **12.50 Regional News** (64976926)
1.00 One O'Clock News (Ceefax) and weather (48094)
1.30 Neighbours (Ceefax) (36579433) **1.55 Knots Landing** (s) (6666592) **2.40 The Clothes Show** (r) (Ceefax) (s) (2516297)
3.05 NEW **Timekeepers**. General knowledge quiz with Bill Dod. (s) (6006704)
3.30 Philbert the Frog (r) (s) (6242617) **3.35 Oakie Doke** (s) (3086471) **3.45 Dear Mr Barker** (s) (3073907) **4.00 Alvin and the Chipmunks** (r) (8110907) **4.15 Phantom 2040** (s) (1225029) **4.35 Grange Hill** (r) (s) (1415839) **5.00 Newsround** (3849346) **5.10 Blue Peter** (s) (8207075)
5.35 Neighbours (r) (Ceefax) (s) (566704)
6.00 Six O'Clock News (Ceefax) and weather (87)
6.30 Regional News Magazines (839)
7.00 Telly Addicts. Television trivia quiz. (Ceefax) (s) (8162)
7.30 Watchdog. Includes a look at the hidden danger of contact lenses (Ceefax) (s) (723)
8.00 EastEnders. Pauline returns from America to find husband Arthur absent. (Ceefax) (s) (7810)



Rowan Atkinson goes undercover (8.30pm)

8.30 The Thin Blue Line: Rag Week. Rowan Atkinson, Kevin Allen and Serena Evans star in this police comedy series written by Ben Elton as though for Benny Hill. (Ceefax) (s) (3617)
9.00 Nine O'Clock News (Ceefax), regional news and weather (7655)
9.30 Panorama. A look at the ebbing fortunes of Yorkshire Water (Ceefax) (337549)
10.10 Match of the Day: FA Cup Third Round Draw presented by Desmond Lynam from Lancaster Gate. With Terry Venables and Denis Law (s) (538758)
10.35 Film 95 with Barry Norman. Barry Norman reviews new films including *The American President*, *Unstrung Heroes*, *Dr Jekyll and Ms Hyde*. (Ceefax) (s) (106075) **NORTHERN IRELAND: 10.35** 29 Bedford Street **11.05** Film 95 with Barry Norman **11.35** FILM: The Sure Thing **1.05-1.10am** Inside Ulster News **WALES: 10.35** CyberWales **11.05** Film 95 with Barry Norman **11.35** FILM: The Fog **1.00-1.05am** News headlines and weather
11.05 FILM: The Fog (1980) starring Adrienne Barbeau, Jamie Lee Curtis, Hal Holbrook, John Houseman and Janet Leigh. Atmospheric horror movie, about events in a coastal town when the ghosts of drowned mariners return to exact violent vengeance on the descendants of those who caused their death. Directed by John Carpenter (Ceefax) (938162)
12.30am Weather (4561853)

BBC2

6.00am Technology Season
7.00 Breakfast News. Signing (9395384)
7.15 Lassie (9374891) **7.35 Swat Kats** (7092029) **8.00 Blue Peter** (2390181) **8.25 Songs of Praise** (9091549)
9.00 Hamel: The Turning Point. First World War (3597704) **9.50 A Week To Remember** (b/w) (3378636) **10.00 Playdays** (r) (s) (1389159)
10.25 FILM: Gert and Daisy's Weekend (1941, b/w) A comedy starring Elsie and Doris Waters. Maclean Rogers directs (8024758)
11.40 The Fugitive (b/w) (r). (Ceefax) (4782839) **12.30pm Working Lunch** (s) (24182) **1.00 William's Wish Wellingtons** (26316891) **1.05 Fireman Sam** (48223029)
1.15 Movie Magic (r) (44702907) **1.40 Turning Point** (73463655) **1.45 Glynn Christian's Entertaining Microwave** (15781810) **2.00 A Helping Hand** (60770758)
2.15 FILM: After the Glory (1992). Second World War veterans fight corruption in their small Texas town. Directed by John Gray. **News** and weather at **3.00** (s) (518926). **3.55 News** and weather (9886907)
4.00 Today's the Day (s) (452) **4.30 Ready, Steady, Cook** (s) (636) **5.00 Esther** Appearing nude for money (s) (6568) **5.30 Going Going Gone** (s) (988)



Maryam D'Abo upholds the law (6.00pm)

6.00 Space Precinct. Futuristic police drama series created by Gerry Anderson (Ceefax) (s) (238876)
6.45 Buck Rogers in the 25th Century (r) (282433)
7.30 More Than Meets the Eye. A documentary exploring social attitudes to normality and difference (r) (365)
8.00 Choice **Horizon: Aids — Behind Closed Doors**. (Ceefax) (s) (804094)
8.50 Close Up. Allen Daviau selects a scene from *The Godfather, Part II* (s) (942181)
9.00 The X Files. (Ceefax) (s) (800704)
9.45 Jerrybuilding: Unholy Relics of Nazi Germany (r). (Teletext) (s) (695075)
10.20 Tiny Epics. The story of Mabel Cooper, a New Forest gypsy, and her struggle to keep her flower stall (780839)
10.30 Newsnight with Jeremy Paxman. (Ceefax) (642278)
11.15 Choice **In Your Face: Janice Galloway — Waving Not Drowning** (s) (513452)
11.55 Weather (962094)
12.00 Midnight Hour With Sir Bernard Ingham. Political chat show (s) (48722)
12.30am-6.00 The Learning Zone

VideoPlus+ and the Video PlusCodes
The numbers next to each TV programme listing are Video PlusCode™ numbers, which allow you to programme your video recorder instantly with a VideoPlus+™ handset. VideoPlus+ can be used with most videos. Tap in the Video PlusCode for the programme you wish to record. For more details call VideoPlus on 0839 121204 (calls cost 36p/min cheap rate, 48p/min at other times) or write to VideoPlus+, Acornex Ltd, 5 Ivory House, Plantation Wharf, London SW11 3TN. VideoPlus+ (™), PlusCode (™) and Video Programmer are trademarks of Gemstar Development Ltd

CHOICE

Clive James in Buenos Aires
ITV, 9.00m

The BBC called them *Postcards* but if the name and the channel have changed, the format has not. Clive James goes to Argentina for his latest innocent-abroad routine, mixing a gag-filled tour of the capital with diversions to darker matters such as President Perón, the military junta and the disappeared. A chat with President Carlos Menem also touches on deeper themes, though it ends with James asking for advice on learning to tango. James's tangles with the tango form one of the show's running gags. Another is his attempt to play polo and a third the observation that Buenos Aires comes to life only between midnight and dawn. As always with James there are pretty girls to be ogled and local food to be tasted and rubbished.

Horizon: Aids — Behind Closed Doors
BBC2, 8.00pm

In a departure from its usual format, *Horizon* doorsteps a conference at which 30 of the world's leading scientists and policymakers in the Aids field present their latest research and try to thrash out a new approach to fighting the disease. Like any group of experts they have fierce disagreements, but the importance of their deliberations cannot be overstated. Fifteen years after the first Aids case came to light, and 12 years after the discovery of HIV, there is still no effective treatment nor any immediate prospect of a vaccine. Experts still disagree on the most basic points, such as the way HIV causes disease, and, amid growing complacency about the scale of the epidemic, spending on research is falling.

In Your Face: Janice Galloway
BBC2, 11.15pm

A profile of the Scottish writer reveals a tough and honest talent whose work is not meant to offer a soothing bedtime read. She talks about being "gut-wrenchingly truthful" in her portrayal of the experiences of women, a subject, she claims, that is too often distorted by myths and lies. Her first novel, *The Trick Is To Keep Breathing*, was an uncompromising study of mental illness. Her second, *Foreign Parts*, charting the experiences of two women driving around France, won the Scottish Writer of the Year Award. Among the contributors is the actress Siobhan Redmond. As the star of the stage version of *The Trick Is To Keep Breathing* she knows as well as anybody what it means to enter Galloway's dark world.



Freddie Mercury lives on in his music (C4, 10.00pm)

The Queen Phenomenon
Channel 4, 10.00pm

The phenomenon of Queen is that the band has lasted so long, more than 20 years if you count *Killer Queen* (1974) as its first big hit. Delivered in a hectic mix of clips and soundbites, this lively tribute offers no explanation for the longevity but perhaps the clue is that the original members are still there. Rock bands have a notorious habit of breaking up as musicians fall out but if Roger Taylor, Brian May and John Deacon have had their disagreements, they do not air them here. Queen has even survived the death of Freddie Mercury, whose charismatic personality cannot help dominating the programme. There is more of Queen on Channel 4 on Wednesday, with the transmission of the 1986 Wembley concert. **Peter Waymark**

CARLTON

6.00am GMTV (8832520)
9.25 Supermarket Sweep (s) (8910520) **9.55 London Today** (Teletext) (3983538)
10.00 The Time . . . The Place (s) (2869487)
10.35 This Morning. Magazine show (28723013)
12.20pm London Today (Teletext) (8870433)
12.30 ITN News and weather (Teletext) (2638471)
12.55 Home and Away (Teletext) (2613162) **1.25 Coronation Street** (r) (Teletext) (44719297) **1.55 Shortland Street** (96510758) **2.20 Blue Heelers: Out of Harm's Way** (4777075)
3.20 ITN News headlines (Teletext) (8344181)
3.25 London Today (Teletext) (8343452)
3.30 The Slow Norris (s) (3089568) **3.40 Tots TV** (s) (6257549) **3.50 Wolves, Witches and Giants** (s) (3083384) **4.05 Sooty and Co** (s) (9882181) **4.30 Where's Wally?** (r) (14103384) **4.50 How 2** (Teletext) (1019636)
5.10 After 5 with Mary Nightingale. (Teletext) (2725452)
5.40 ITN News and weather (Teletext) (830926)
5.55 Your Shout. Viewers air their views (755742)
6.00 Home and Away (r). (Teletext) (655)
6.30 London Tonight (Teletext) (907)
7.00 Wish You Were Here . . .? Chris Tarrant and his wife Ingrid go on safari in Tanzania, Judith Chalmers visits Co Clare and John Carter is in Slovenia. (Teletext) (6758)
7.30 Coronation Street. (Teletext) (891)
8.00 Bruce's Price Is Right. (Teletext) (s) (9278)
8.30 World In Action: Obesity. A report on the fattening of Britain. (Teletext) (s) (1013)



Clive James is game for polo (9.00pm)

9.00 Choice **Clive James In Buenos Aires**. (Teletext) (s) (4487)
10.00 ITN News at Ten and weather (Teletext) (51433)
10.30 London Tonight (Teletext) (390433)
10.40 The Good Sex Guide Abroad. (Teletext) (s) (123742)
11.10 Hunter. Series about a hard-nosed plainclothes detective and his tough female partner (987988)
12.10am Short Story Cinema: Witness A Nazi concentration camp soldier is haunted by the presence of a young Jewish boy who watches him take prisoners to the gas chamber (6337495)
12.30 On the Live Side with Richie Cole (r) (s) (5681650)
12.40 Endsleigh League Extra (7694698) **1.25 Sport AM** (8199872)
2.25 Quiz Night (8407056)
2.50 FILM: Mr Kingstreet's War (1972). A young man's prewar dreams of running a game reserve in Africa are threatened by a dispute between the British and Italian colonial armies. Starring John Saxon. Directed by Percival Rubens (824327)
4.25 On The Live Side. Billy Cobham, Ben Sidran (r) (s) (31695501)
4.35 Best of British Motorsport (54107018)
5.00 The Chrystal Rose Show (r) (s) (54211)
5.30 ITN Morning News (98227) Ends at **6.00**

CHANNEL 4

6.30am Ulysses 31 Cartoon series (r) (12181)
7.00 The Big Breakfast (38617)
9.00 FILM: Song Without End (1960) starring Dirk Bogarde, Capucine and Genevieve Page. A biopic of the composer and piano virtuoso, Liszt. Directed by Charles Vidor (52682907)
11.25 One Fine Day. Animation of the celebrated aria, sung by Michele Crider (7294013)
11.30 Putting Art in its Place The first of four programmes looking at specially-commissioned art for public places. Today, work by Simon Page, John Maine and Peter Randall-Page (r) (4758)
12.00 Crawshaw's Sketching and Drawing Course Moving objects (Teletext) (58346)
12.30pm Sesame Street. Patti LaBelle and Yo Yo Ma are the guests (27617) **1.30 Gumdrop, Bush Tales, The Magic Roundabout** and **Musti** (96435013)
1.50 The Cyclist. Animation (73541487)
2.00 FILM: Carrington VC (1954, b/w) starring David Niven. A drama about a British Army officer defending himself on a charge of theft. Directed by Anthony Asquith. (Teletext) (1100)
4.00 Think Tank. Team quiz. (Teletext) (s) (520)
4.30 Fifteen To One (Teletext) (s) (704)
5.00 Love In the Afternoon. Romantic magazine series. (Teletext) (s) (3471)
6.00 The Cosby Show (r) (Teletext) (s) (297)
6.30 Hollyoaks. Phil Redmond's Chester-based teen soap. (Teletext) (s) (549)
7.00 Channel 4 News. (Teletext) (714617)
7.55 The Slot. Viewers video soapbox (643013)
8.00 Inside Out: Jam Jar. The world for an autistic (Teletext) (s) (1920)
8.30 Porkpie. The fourth of the six-part comedy spin-off from *Desmond's*, starring Ram John Holder as a once-impoverished pensioner who wins the National Lottery. This week he decides to open a community centre for the people of Peckham. But what sort of place should it be? As usual he is inundated with advice. (Teletext) (s) (9655)
9.00 The Factory. The documentary-soap about the workforce of a Liverpool gasfire factory (Teletext) (s) (828100)



Chandra and Ardish Vadivale (9.45pm)

9.45 Holy Places. A look at the only private Hindu temple in the country — a converted rectory in the Oxfordshire village of Middleton Stoney, owned by Chandra and Ardish Vadivale. (Teletext) (s) (195452)
10.00 Choice **The Queen Phenomenon** (s) (2895365)
11.05 The American Football Big Match. Highlights from the National Football League (939926)
12.25am Trans World Sport (r) (2246292)
1.25 Let The Blood Run Free. Black comedy series set in an Australian hospital (r) (Teletext) (s) (9940217)
1.50 FILM: A Deadly Silence (1989) starring Mike Farrell, Heather Fairfield and Bruce Weitz. A fact-based courtroom drama about the trial of a 17-year-old American girl accused of hiring a classmate to murder her brutal, sexually-abusive father. Directed by John Patterson (504650). Ends at **3.30**

VARIATIONS

ANGLIA
As London except: 12.55-1.25 Coronation Street (2613162) **1.25** Home and Away (44719297) **1.55** A Country Practice (36572520) **2.25** Blue Heelers (9952549) **5.10** Shortland Street (2725452) **6.25** Anglia Weather (736742) **6.30-7.00** Anglia News (997) **10.30** Anglia News (390433) **10.40** Cover Story (123742) **11.10-11.40** The Good Sex Guide Abroad (755346) **1.20am** Film: Passion Flower (203259) **2.55** Music Box Profile (5856563) **3.10** Sport AM (7868850) **4.05** Best of British Motorsport (90666259) **4.30** The Time . . the Place (74563) **5.00** The Real Ghostbusters (54211)

CENTRAL
As London except: 1.55 A Country Practice (96510758) **3.25** Central News (8343452) **5.10** Shortland Street (2725452) **6.25-7.00** Central News and Weather (509452) **11.10** Crime Story (987988) **12.10am** Sledge Hammer (3269679) **4.25** Jobfinder (2206476) **5.20** Asian Eye (1230380)

GRANADA
As London except: 12.55-1.25 Shortland Street (2613162) **1.25** Home and Away (89682549) **1.50** Murder, She Wrote (8228907) **2.50-3.20** Gardeners' Diary (5886094) **5.10-5.40** A Country Practice (2725452) **6.25-7.00** Granada Tonight (509452) **10.40** The Good Sex Guide Abroad (123742) **11.10** The Sporting Press (549574) **11.25** There's Only One Brian Moore (901568) **12.25am-12.40** Pop Profile (6709940) **4.25-4.35** Jobfinder (31695501)

HTV WEST
As London except: 12.55 Shortland Street (6947433) **1.20-1.50** Coronation Street (44710926) **2.20** Side Effects (4777075) **5.10** What's My Line? (2725452) **6.30-7.00** HTV News (907) **10.45** The West Story (257433) **11.15** Canvas (254346) **11.45** Spotlight (253617) **12.15am** Good Advice (6327018) **4.25** Jobfinder (31695501)

HTV WALES
As HTV WEST except: 5.10-5.40 The Electric Chair (2725452) **6.30-7.00** Wales Tonight (907) **10.45** Welsh Women of the Year (233013) **11.45** Prisoner Cell Block H (982704)

MERIDIAN
As London except: 9.55am-10.00 Meridian News and Weather (3983538) **12.20pm-12.30** Meridian News and Weather (8870433) **12.55-1.25** Coronation Street (2613162) **1.25** Home and Away (44719297) **1.55** A Country Practice (36572520) **2.25** Blue Heelers (9952549) **5.10-5.40** Home and Away (2725452) **6.00** Meridian Tonight (655) **8.30-7.00** A Tale of Three Seaside Towns (907) **10.45** The Pier (109182) **11.10** The Listings (374655) **11.15** The Good Sex Guide Abroad (254346) **11.45** Beyond Reason (253617) **12.15am** The Hidden Room (6327018) **1.20** Film: Passion Flower (203259) **2.55** Music Box Profile (5856563) **3.10** Sport AM (7868850) **4.05** Best of British Motorsport (90666259) **4.30** The Time . . the Place (74563) **5.00** Freescreen (54211)

WESTCOUNTRY
As London except: 12.55-1.25 Coronation Street (2613162) **1.25** Home and Away (44719297) **1.55** High Road (36572520) **2.25** Gardeners' Diary (18478758) **2.50** A Country Practice (5866094) **5.10** Home and Away (2725452) **6.00-7.00** Westcountry Live (80487) **11.10** Fair's Fair (755346) **11.40** Side Effects (894891) **4.25am** Jobfinder (31695501)

YORKSHIRE
As London except: 12.55-1.25 Coronation Street (2613162) **1.25** Home and Away (44719297) **1.55** A Country Practice (96510758) **2.20** An Invitation to Remember . the Entertainers (16395839) **2.50** Help Yourself (31341100) **2.55** Shortland Street (2591688) **5.10** Home and Away (2725452) **5.55** Calendar (607433) **6.30-7.00** The Dales Diary (907) **10.40** New Voices: The Wedge (123742) **11.10** The Good Sex Guide Abroad (755346) **11.40** Prisoner Cell Block H (663433) **12.35am** Endsleigh League Extra (7679389) **1.20** Film: The Third Day Arrived . the Crow (1218124) **2.50** The New Music (4186871) **3.50** On the Live Side (74745940) **4.20** Jobfinder (5188360)

S4C
Starts: 7.00 The Big Breakfast (38617) **9.00** Film: Song Without End (52682907) **11.25** One Fine Day (7294013) **11.30** Putting Art In Its Place (4758) **12.00** Right To Reply (58346) **12.30** Kaise and Orbie (90810) **1.00** Slot Methrin (31704) **1.30** Crawshaw's Sketching and Drawing Course (99181) **2.00** Film: Bell, Book and Candle (248520) **3.55** Messy Messenger (9871075) **4.00** Think Tank (520) **4.30** Simply The Best: Herbs In East Anglia (704) **5.00** 5 Pump Rown A Rowad (3965384) **5.10** 5 Pump: Ffeil (3861568) **5.20** 5 Pump: Tochabani (6949471) **5.30** Fifteen To One (384) **6.00** Newyddion (471276) **6.15** Heno (328029) **7.00** Pobol Y Cwm (316297) **7.25** Y Byd Ar Bedwar (602433) **8.00** Fe A Fe: Ta-ra-ra-bwm (1920) **8.30** Newyddion (9855) **9.00** Homicide — Life On the Streets (2029) **10.00** Sgorio (2885385) **11.05** The American Football Big Match (292907) **12.20** Frasier (3275230) **12.50** Porkpie (2853501) **1.20** Inside Out (9932292) **1.50** Diwedd

SATELLITE

● **For more comprehensive listings of satellite and cable channels, see the Vision supplement, published Saturday**

SKY ONE
7.00am DJ Kat (48810) **8.00** Mighty Morphin (15655) **8.30** Press Your Luck (14926) **9.00** Court TV (42538) **9.30** Oprah Winfrey (40146) **10.30** Concentration (94162) **11.00** Sally Jessy Raphael (88636) **12.00** Spellbound (15742) **12.30pm** Designing Women (34278) **1.00** Waltons (22433) **2.00** Geraldo (55810) **3.00** Court TV (9287) **3.30** Oprah Winfrey (88373865) **4.20** Mighty Morphin (39838810) **4.45** Kippel Trapper (51490029) **5.00** Star Trek: The Next Generation (80487) **11.10** Fair's Fair (755346) **11.40** Side Effects (894891) **4.25am** Jobfinder (31695501)

SKY NEWS
News on the hour
6.00am Sunrise (4451742) (1985520) **10.10** 60 Minutes (4142075) **1.30pm** CBS News (68549) **2.30** Parliament Live (22926) **3.30** Parliament Live (2461) **5.00** Live at Five (36029) **6.30** Adam Boulton (87610100) **8.10** 60 Minutes (453384) **11.30** CBS News (43384) **12.30am** ABC News (77211) **1.30** Adam Boulton (1629837) **2.10** 60 Minutes (5894478) **3.30** Parliament (30281) **4.30** CBS News (89501) **5.30** News (48037)

SKY MOVIES
6.00am Showcase (80891) **8.00 The Big Parade of Comedy** (1964) (46162) **10.00 Following Her Heart** (1994) (38094) **12.00 Mass Appeal** (1984) (89013) **2.00pm** L'accompagnatrice (1992) (66891) **4.00 Apache Uprising** (1965) (8181) **6.00 Following Her Heart** (1994) (25704) **7.30 Close-Up: Sky's Movie Premieres in December** (3365) **8.00 Close to Eden** (1992) (81100) **10.00 Warlock: The Armageddon** (1993) (6511621) **11.40 Blind Side** (1993) (241094) **1.20am Blood In, Blood Out** (1993) (81760765) **4.20 The Big Parade of Comedy** (1964) (212969)

SKY MOVIES GOLD
4.00pm The Big Sky (1952) (2033) **6.00 Carousel** (1956) (59549) **8.00 The Last Continent** (1968) (54094) **10.00 The French Connection** (1971) (852704) **11.50 Harold and Maude** (1971) (495704) **1.25-3.05am Against the Wind** (1948) (614476)

THE MOVIE CHANNEL
6.00am Rich In Love (1993) (98433) **8.00 Zoo Robbery** (1973) (5139384) **9.10 Tales Of Washington Irving** (1992) (9653452) **10.00 Cinderella** (1960) (36836) **12.00 Wind** (1992) (67655) **2.00pm Man without a Star** (1955) (64433) **4.00 Zoo Robbery** (1973) (5870452) **5.10 Tales of Washington Irving** (1992) (9187452) **6.00 Wind** (1992) (84297) **8.00 Cradle of Conspiracy** (1994) (12742) **9.30 A Few Good Men** (1992) (876162) **12.00 Gas, Food, Lodging** (1992) (923360) **1.45am Breaking the Silence** (1991) (1497477) **3.25 The Visitors** (1972) (24687376)

THE DISNEY CHANNEL
Sky Movies Gold takes over from 10pm to 4am.
6.00am Under The Umbrella Tree (45782549) **6.30** Muppet Babies (33794988) **7.00** Pooh (36557346) **7.30** Ducktales (36589181) **8.00** Chip 'n Dale (29939278) **8.30** Wonderland (29938548) **9.00** Fraggle Rock (29025029) **9.30** Pooh Corner (63750433) **10.00** Dumbo (33718568) **10.30** Quack Attack (29941013) **11.00** Walt Disney Presents (36558029) **12.00** FILM: Breaking Free (33798704) **2.00pm** Wonderland (70505839) **2.30** Umbrella Tree (62593297) **3.00** Fraggle Rock (70584346) **3.30** Pooh (62588472) **4.00** Quack Attack (62584549) **4.30** Ducktales (62573433) **5.00** Chip 'n Dale (70569891) **5.30** Danger Bay (62597013) **6.00** Tarzan (62594826) **6.30** Dinosaurs (62585278) **7.00** Boy Meets World (70509655) **7.30** Thunder Alley (62574162) **8.00-10.00** FILM: Windrunner (88647549)

EUROSPORT
7.30am Ski Jumping (95588) **8.30** Alpine Skiing (56365) **10.00** Swimming (37626) **11.00** Boxing (17162) **12.00** Motorsports Report (59162) **1.00pm** Ski Jumping (68810) **2.00** Tennis (89100) **3.30** Powerlifting (33636) **4.30** Body Building (99636) **5.30** Tractor Pulling (78346) **6.30** News (1365) **7.00** Speedworld (32471) **9.00** Football (60966) **10.00** Pro Wrestling (10443) **11.00** Golf (83365) **11.30** Golf (99891) **12.00-12.30am** News (83360)

SKY SPORTS
7.00am Gillette Sport (34839) **7.30** Racing News (13346) **8.00** Cricket: South Africa v England (4129568) **4.00** The Big League (9839) **6.00** Sky Sports Centre (2617) **6.30** Tartan Extra (6297) **7.00** Football: Sheffield Wednesday v Coventry (97113297) **10.15** Sports Centre (9710584) **10.30** South Africa v England: Cricket (24810) **12.30pm** Football (10501) **2.30-3.30** Sports Centre (47143)

SKY SPORTS GOLD
10.00pm Cricket Hall of Fame (2341723) **10.30** Bobby Charlton's Football Scrapbook (4154457) **12.00-1.00am** Golf and All Its Glory (9482786)

SKY SOAP
7.00am Guiding Light (4280365) **7.55** As the World Turns (7698029) **8.50** Peyton Place (4224075) **9.20** Days of our Lives (4378075) **10.10** Another World (5403425)

SKY TRAVEL
11.00am Globetrotter (1544907) **11.30** An American in Tahiti (4051278) **12.30** Franey (2613181) **1.00pm** Around The World (5826100) **1.30** Travel Guide (2612452) **2.00** Trailside (4648471) **2.30** On Top of The World (2312742) **3.00** Getaway (4832278) **3.30-4.00** Boomerang (2497487)

THE HISTORY CHANNEL
4.00am Our Century (1731487) **5.00** History Alive Special (4729758) **8.00-7.00** Biography (2621100)

THE SCI-FI CHANNEL
7.00am Mysaries, Magic and Miracles (4720487) **7.30** Ray Bradbury Theatre (2300907) **8.00** The Martian Chronicles (6849839) **10.00** Close (9544013) **1.00pm** Mysteries, Magic and Miracles (1767969) **1.30** Ray Bradbury Theatre (8089766) **2.00-4.00** The Martian Chronicles (2427969)



Paul Ross presents the British *Jeopardy!* (Sky One, 6.30pm)

TLC
9.00am Painting (9550487) **9.30** Martha Stewart (1303568) **10.00** Our House (6664568) **10.30** Get Well Soon (9476471) **11.00** Only Human (1908899) **12.00** Giving the Empire a Lift (9467723) **12.30pm** Jimmy's (1307384) **1.00** Martha Stewart (1903655) **1.30** Painting (1308655) **2.00** Hot House People (8665297) **3.00** Secret Gardens (7390297) **3.30-4.00** Our House (8002487)

UK GOLD
7.00am Angels (1906742) **7.30** Neighbours (1992549) **8.00** Sons and Daughters (9466094) **8.30** EastEnders (9465365) **9.00** The Bill (9456617) **9.30** Sullivans (1305926) **10.00** Secret Army (1981433) **11.00** Dallas (1901297) **12.00** Sons and Daughters (9469181) **12.30pm** Neighbours (1309742) **1.00** EastEnders (1905013) **1.30** The Bill (1308013) **2.00** The Sullivans (2174015) **2.25** Are You Being Served? (3496297) **3.00** Angels (7392655) **3.30** Eldorado (8908617) **4.00** Casualty (9523346) **5.05** Generation Game (41550636) **6.15** Kenny's Comic Cuts (6782452) **6.25** EastEnders (2385100) **7.00** Eldorado (7384636) **7.30** Taxi (8917385) **8.00** George and Mildred (7393384) **8.30** Alas Smith and Jones (7372691) **9.00** Capital City (5734100) **10.00** The Bill (6582013) **10.35** Top of The Pops (8901346) **11.25** KYTV (7389471) **12.05am** Dr Who (2514679) **12.35** Film: Cross Fire (22397105) **2.05-3.00** Shopping (8250018)

TCC
6.00am Casper (80668) **7.00** Pink Panther (52810) **7.30** Ready or Not (48617) **8.00** Valley High (60704) **8.30** Casper (6500617) **8.45** Dinobabies (6521100) **9.00** Tiny (8272810) **12.30pm** Tiny (94365) **2.30** Happily Ever After (7988) **3.00** Sonic (2181) **3.30** Pink Panther (2433) **4.00** Californa Dreams (1568) **4.30-5.00** Valley High (1592)

NICKELODEON
6.00am Blue (80655) **6.30** Duckula (85029) **7.00** Beetlink (1999094) **7.05** Turtles (3920433) **7.45** Rugrats (7269988) **9.15** Doug (835100) **8.45** Modern Life (57350513) **9.00** Alvin (27029) **9.30** Pee Wee (72013) **10.00** Banana Sandwich (33100) **11.00** Children's BBC (20836) **12.00** Modern Life (34365) **12.30pm** Real Monsters (56029) **1.00** Ship to Shore (24452) **1.30** Mighty Max (75100) **2.00** Speed Racer (6518) **2.30** Galaxy (5758) **3.00** Duckula (6365) **3.30** The Littlest Pet Shop (4075) **4.00** Turtles (6810) **4.30** Rugrats (2094) **5.00** Clarissa (1810) **5.30** Wishbone (3346) **6.00** Doug (6487) **6.30** Are You Afraid? (4836) **7.00** Ferris Bueller (8346) **7.30-8.00** Sister (3723)

DISCOVERY
4.00pm The Global Family (9818094) **4.30** Earthlife (8914278) **5.00** Lonely Planet (73815494) **5.30** Invention (8928471) **6.30** Beyond 2000 (1855494) **7.30** Frontline (8915907) **8.00** Untamed Africa (5729278) **9.00** Seven Wonders (5732742) **10.00** Silent Armageddon (5816029) **11.00** Guardians of the Deep (1358520) **11.30-12.00** Subs!

BRAVO
12.00 FILM: The Brain from Planet Arous (98360636) **1.15pm** Honey West (7122181) **2.00** The Saint (6652723) **3.00** Scotland Yard (7387723) **3.30** Interpol (8926013) **4.00** FILM: The Titfield Thunderbolt (2682574) **5.30** Honey West (8925384) **6.00** Death Valley Days (8922297) **6.30** The Critic (8913549) **7.00** The Critic (7379704) **7.30** Into the Protectors (8902433) **8.00** The Saint (5716704) **9.00** Jason King (5736568) **10.00** FILM: Class of Nuke 'em High (3862839) **11.30-12.00** 120 Volt Miracles (6657278)

UK LIVING
6.00am Agony Hour (7746855) **7.00** Living (6533297) **9.00** All Well and Good (2428452) **9.30** Kale and Alle (5521704) **10.00** Hearts (1019452) **10.40** Bride of the Day (46636520) **10.55** Entertainment (21004549) **11.00** Young and Restless (3395520) **11.55** Food and Drink (6442452) **12.30pm** Brookside (5974742) **1.05** Ailroy (1427549) **2.00** Agony Hour (4405013) **3.00** Living (4152617) **4.00** Inflatuation UK (8891345) **4.30** Crosswits (7938810) **5.05** Joker's Wild (59759278) **5.30** Bewitched (6804810) **6.00** Esther (8801723) **6.30** Brookside (6296655) **7.05** Inflatuation UK (2006669

BUSINESS

TAKING COURAGE 39

WRITE-OFFS LIKELY AT SCOTTISH & NEWCASTLE

MONDAY DECEMBER 4 1995

BUSINESS EDITOR LINDSAY COOK



Forte: sold Lillywhites

Forte recruits Wall Street warrior to aid defence

BY ERIC REGULY

SIR ROCCO FORTE, chairman of the Forte hotels and restaurants group, has secretly enlisted the help of one of Wall Street's most feared investment bankers to advise on his defence against Granada's £3.4 billion takeover bid.

Roberto Mendoza, vice-chairman of JP Morgan, has moved from New York to London to be at Sir Rocco's side during the battle and is assisting in the preparation of the defence document, which is to be published on Thursday or Friday. His appointment provides further evidence that Sir Rocco is gearing up for what is expected to be one of the City's nastiest takeover battles.

Forte said that Mr Mendoza is "on loan" from JP Morgan, but said that both he and JP Morgan will be paid for their work. This suggests that Mr Mendoza will be able to draw on JP Morgan's considerable expertise in takeover battles.

Forte tried to keep JP Morgan's role quiet because it did not want to leave the impression that it lacked confidence in America's Morgan Stanley and SBC Warburg, Forte's main advisers.

Sir Rocco and Mr Mendoza, both 50, have been close friends since their school days at Downside and later went to Oxford together. Mr Mendoza was born in Cuba and has been described in the press as a "firebrand" mergers and acquisitions specialist. In the late 1980s, he advised Hoffman-La Roche on its $4.2 billion offer for Sterling Drug. He was also a director of Banesto, Spain's fourth-largest bank. He and the rest of the Banesto board were dismissed by the Bank of Spain last year during Banesto's financial crisis.

Forte announced over the weekend that it has sold Lillywhites, the sports retailer best known for its Piccadilly Circus location, for £28.5 million in cash to Jeronimo Martins, a Portuguese retailer. Martins had approached Forte before Granada launched its bid on November 22. Forte said that the Lillywhites sale was part of the group's effort to focus on its hotels and restaurants. It said that it has sold about £900 million of non-core businesses since 1993.

Granada said that the Lillywhites sale was insignificant. Gerry Robinson, Granada's chief executive, said: "Lillywhites is a peripheral business and any competent management would have sold it years ago instead of being seduced by the prestige of the name."

Forte's defence document is expected to disclose further plans to make the company more focused. Further disposals are in the works.

The Travelodge budget hotel chain in the US is on the auction block and, in Britain, the 70 White Hart hotels will probably be sold for about £100 million. Forte also wants to sell its 25 per cent stake in Alpha Airports Group, the airport retailing and catering company.

Forte will argue that the upturn in the hotels market will make its collection of luxury hotels, including the Savoy chain, increasingly valuable. Granada has accused Forte of being wedded to "trophy" hotels because of their glamour.

Further delay for Channel rail link

BY JONATHAN PRYNN, TRANSPORT CORRESPONDENT

GOVERNMENT plans to award the £3 billion Channel Tunnel rail link contract by the year-end have been thrown into disarray by a disagreement between the Treasury and the Department of Transport over the two shortlisted bidders.

The Government had hoped to name the winner of the competition in the middle of this month. However, the complexity of the negotiations means that talks are now certain to drag on into the new year and an announcement is now not expected until late next month or early February.

The shortlisted consortiums are Eurorail, a traditional contractor-led group that includes BICC and Trafalgar House, and London & Continental Railways, a transport-led consortium that includes Virgin and National Express but has no contractors on board. They are in round-the-clock discussions with officials on outstanding issues.

They are bidding for the right to build the 68-mile high-speed rail link through London and Kent to the Channel Tunnel, the operation of Eurostar trains to the Continent, and up to £1 billion of cash subsidy.

Industry insiders said that while the Department of Transport favoured the Eurorail bid because of its relative simplicity, the Treasury was suspicious of a contractor-led approach in the wake of the Eurotunnel fiasco.

One source said: "What they want to avoid is another massive, high prestige project where the contractors run wildly over budget, hand it over to the operators and then walk away." A separate round of talks with Treasury officials following months of negotiations with the Department of Transport got under way last month.

The Channel Tunnel, at £10 billion, cost about twice as much to build as originally forecast and has saddled the operator, Eurotunnel, with debts of £8 billion.

While the Government has made no financial contribution to the construction of the Channel Tunnel and is prevented by law from bailing it out, the builders of the rail link will receive up to £2 billion in cash and assets from the taxpayer.

The building of the link, which will trim half an hour from the journey time from London to Paris, is by far the biggest project of the Government's Private Finance Initiative (PFI), which was given a boost by Kenneth Clarke in the Budget last week.

The complexity of the negotiations has underscored the difficulties facing the Government in pursuing the PFI. The long-standing Treasury principle that only public funds should be used to finance public works means that few officials have much experience in contracts of this kind.

A source from one of the bidders said: "There are whole rainforests of paper work being used up every single day. I just cannot see that we can do everything that is asked of us in the time required. They have just made the process too complex. Last week, we were getting amended paperwork sent back to us and that is the third time we have had to go back and revisit the some of these issues."

The process is being further complicated by delays in the enabling legislation that has to be in place before construction work can begin. The Channel Tunnel Rail Link Bill is still bogged down in its committee stage and is not expected to complete its passage through Parliament before the general election.

Work on the link will start in late 1997 at the earliest and it will not be in place until about 2003. France has had its fast link from Paris to the Channel Tunnel in place since before Eurostar services began last year and Belgium's will open late next year.

ANTHONY UPTON



Miners at Tower Colliery in mid-Glamorgan have achieved record results from an "unviable" pit, making a profit of almost £2 million

Littlewoods targeted by break-up bidders

BY MARTIN WALLER

THE family who own Littlewoods, the pools-to-retail business, have received an approach from two quoted retailers interested in buying and breaking up the group.

N Brown, the mail order retailer 58 per cent owned by Sir David Alliance, chairman of Coats Viyella, and Iceland Group, the frozen food chain, have put together a break-up bid with the help of Victor Blank at Charterhouse Bank, who fashioned the consortium purchase of Woolworth 13 years ago. The 32 family members at Littlewoods will meet on Thursday. A study has already been commissioned into the group's future. The break-up bid will be added to other options, which include a flotation, or a scheme to buy shares from family members. Sources close to Littlewoods said it was unlikely to respond formally to the Brown/Iceland approach until next spring at the earliest.

Under the break-up plan the pools side could be sold to Ladbroke.

Asda lays its plans to shop round the clock

BY SARAH BAGNALL

ASDA is to keep three of its stores open for a marathon 40 hours and a further number for about 16 hours in a bid to win Christmas trade.

Stores in Clapham, south London, Edinburgh and Watford will open at 8.30am on Friday December 22 and trade for all of Friday night and Saturday, closing finally at midnight on Saturday December 23. The doors are only shutting at midnight because Sunday trading laws restrict supermarkets to six hours of trading. The stores will open between 10am and 4pm.

Asda is also considering keeping a significant number of its 200 stores open until midnight on Saturday. The move follows the group's successful trial of shopping round the clock last Christmas. Asda found that 5,000 shoppers visited the store between 10pm and 8am on December 22 and December 23.

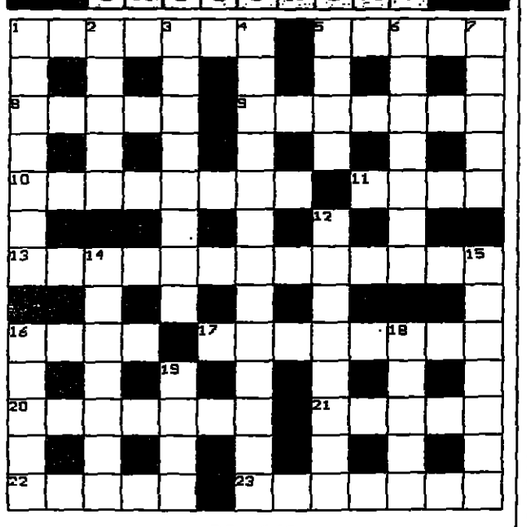
Tesco said it was not following Asda's lead but that tomorrow loyalty cardholders could shop in 80 of its stores until 11pm.

Miners dig up record result

SOUTH Wales miners have turned an "unviable" pit into a profitable one in less than a year. Tower Colliery at Hirwaun in mid-Glamorgan, was closed by British Coal, but the miners, led by Tyrone O'Sullivan, were convinced that there was a market for its anthracite. And last January, after contributing about £8,000 each from their redundancy money, the miners bought and reopened the pit.

During the year, they have achieved record results, making a profit of almost £2 million on a turnover of £19 million. A million pounds is to be reinvested in a new face at the pit.

TIMES TWO CROSSWORD



No 643

ACROSS

1 Put down carefully (7)
5 Bird: pastime (5)
8 Christmas gift-bringer (5)
9 Royal insignia (7)
10 Charlotte Bronte novel (8)
11 Ineffective: conceited (4)
13 What a surprise! (4,1,5,3)
16 Wind-direction indicator (4)
17 Attached to cause; resistance fighter (8)
20 Very unimportant (7)
21 Delight; a composer (5)
22 Having long limbs (5)
23 Bondage (7)

DOWN

1 Deny responsibility (for) (7)
2 Relating to punishment (5)
3 Cut of pork (5-3); Eve's origin (5,3)
4 Dramatically regain upper hand (4,3,6)
5 Enormous (4)
6 Traffic-island post (7)
7 Long, ache (5)
12 Spinal column segment (8)
14 Upstairs passage (7)
15 Succession of kings (7)
16 Crucially important (5)
18 Set of rooms; group of attendants (5)
19 Large town (4)

SOLUTION TO No 642

ACROSS: 1 Jubilee 5 Baker 8 Meals 9 Close up 10 Old wives' tale 12 Eulogy 14 Stance 17 Haute couture 21 Culprit 22 Plead 23 Match 24 Hotspur

DOWN: 1 Jamboree 2 Bland 3 Lasting 4 Exceed 5 Boost 6 Kremlin 7 Rapt 11 Defender 13 Leaflet 15 Trumpet 16 Scotch 18 Torah 19 Use up 20 Scam

AKOM LTD IS NOW OFFERING READERS OF THE TIMES FREE DELIVERY OF THE ITEMS LISTED BELOW AT STANDARD RETAIL PRICE — OFFER APPLIES UK ONLY.

TIMES CROSSWORDS: — Books 3 to 13 £3.99 each. Books 14 to 19 £3.50 each. NEW! Omnibus (Christmas) edition - 120 Times crosswords £4.99. Times Computer Crosswords (36 titles) £9.99 each. Send SAE for details. The Times Concise — Books 1 & 2 £4.99 each. Books 3 to 6 £3.50 each. Times Two NEW Book 3 £2.99. The Times Jumbo - Books 1 & 2 £4.99 each. Concise Book 1 £4.99.

SUNDAY TIMES CROSSWORDS: — Books 10 to 13 £3.50 each. The Sunday Times Concise — Books 1 to 3 £3.50 each. Book 4 £2.99. SPECIAL OFFER: Any five crossword books (above) £15.

Send cheques with order payable to Akom Ltd 51 Manor Lane, London SE13 5QW. Delivery to 8 days. Tel. 0181-852 4575 (24hrs) No credit cards.

City Oscars to include new category for AIM

BY MARTIN BARROW

NOMINATIONS are being sought for the 1995 PLC Awards, the City's Oscars, which recognise the achievements of smaller quoted companies.

The awards, sponsored by Coopers & Lybrand in association with *The Times*, are entering their 10th anniversary year. They culminate in the annual dinner, at the Grosvenor House Hotel, London, on March 14, 1996. The event, a highlight of the City's social calender, was sold out in August.

The main awards will be for the company of the year, the new company of the year, the entrepreneur of the year and the best-performing share. Awards will also be presented in the categories of best annual report, best-performing smaller company fund and, for the first time, AIM company of the year. The PLC Achievement award will be presented to a City professional who has made a significant contribution to the development of smaller quoted companies.

Coopers & Lybrand PLC AWARDS

Letters seeking nominations are being sent to table hosts, with responses required by January 1996. Sponsors of awards will compile a shortlist, which will be voted on by a panel made up of sponsors, brokers and analysts. Finally, readers of *The Times* will be invited to vote on a second shortlist, using coupons to be published in February.

Sponsors of individual awards are College Hill Associates; Albert E Sharp; Credit Lyonnais Laing; Winterflood Securities; Burrups; Peel, Hunt; and Edge & Ellison.

Winners in the 1994 PLC Awards included First Technology (company of the year), Domnick Hunter Group (new company of the year), David Lloyd (entrepreneur of the year) and Hawtal Whiting (best-performing share). The inaugural PLC Achievement award was presented to Brian Winterflood.

'Division' over bid for Swalec

A faction within Welsh Water is opposed to its proposed £850 million bid for South Wales Electricity (Swalec), Rhodri Morgan, MP for Cardiff West and Labour spokesman on water in Wales, says.

The stock market is braced for a hostile bid from Welsh Water within days after talks between the two companies broke down last week.

Welsh Water announced an opening offer of between 825p and 840p a share for Swalec. A meeting between both companies on Thursday saw Welsh Water raise its "indicative" cash and share bid to 916p per share. That offer was also rejected, and the water company was expected to "go hostile" and mount an opposed bid, perhaps as early as today.

But Mr Morgan said some of the management of the core water business within Welsh Water were against such a bid because they feared the high borrowings it would entail would require cuts in promised spending on cleaning up Welsh beaches.

Higher pay

Pay rises have climbed to their highest level for three years, outpacing inflation to reach 3.5 per cent, an Industrial Relations Services report says. Deals remained at 3 per cent for the first six months of the year, rising to 3.1 per cent in July and August and 3.2 per cent in September before jumping to 3.5 per cent last month.

Pearson move

Pearson, the media group, is examining the books of Select-TV, the independent television production house, with a view to making a bid.

Tipplers toast whisky war

BY CHRISTINE BUCKLEY

WHISKY drinkers, already toasting the Chancellor's Budget cut in duty, face a festive season where prices are tumbling fast as producers fight their fiercest Christmas price war.

The price war, which has been severe over the past two years and has led to a stream of whisky company complaints about tight margins and unsustainable selling rates, is increasing at the height of the pre-Christmas period which accounts for 40 per cent of all whisky sales.

Off-licences and supermarkets are cutting prices sharply. Further announcements, including from Threshers, are expected this week.

Tertiary brands, the younger types of whisky which sometimes are just past the three-year minimum ageing period, are now dipping below £8, while retailers' own-brands are having to vye for business at about £9. The main brands are using marketing ploys, as well as straight price cuts, with extra discounts available on twin packs. Bell's twin-pack prices a bottle at £10.22, which is £1 under the recommended retail price for a single bottle. Aggressive discounting by retailers lower those prices further.

Distillers such as Allied Domecq are increasing discounts available for blended whisky for own-label marketing, while its Teachers is the cheapest of the main blended brands, retailing at £10.69 in some outlets. Guy Farmer, of Kleinwort Benson, said: "It is very aggressive. People had thought pricing would calm a little this year, but this is shaping to be worse than previous years."

The young mixer, Page 42

